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## **Wild Winter Grips Europe**

### **51 Deaths Reported**

# Saturday Mail Features



# KING'S PRINCESS EMPIRE

At 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m. At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m. At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

## OPENING TO-DAY,



## KING'S

TO-MORROW & SUNDAY—5 SHOWS DAILY  
EXTRA SHOW AT 11.30 A.M.

## "LIVING IT UP"

### SPECIAL HOLIDAY MATINEES

#### PRINCESS

TO-MORROW 11.30 p.m.  
An Indian Picture  
Surajya & Shammi  
Kapoor in  
"SHAMA PARWAN"  
(The Flame & the Moth)  
with English & Chinese Subtitles  
at Regular Prices

SUNDAY 11.00 a.m.  
DISNEY'S TECHNICOLOR  
CARTOONS  
at Reduced Prices

SUNDAY 12.30 p.m.  
Tyrone Power in  
"CRASH DIVE"  
Technicolor  
at Reduced Prices

MONDAY 12.30 p.m.  
Gary Cooper in  
"SPRINGFIELD  
RIFLES"  
Warnercolor  
at Reduced Prices

#### EMPIRE

TO-MORROW 11.00 a.m.  
FOX TECHNICOLOR  
CARTOONS

TO-MORROW 12.30 p.m.  
Tyrone Power in  
"CRASH DIVE"  
Technicolor

SUNDAY 11.00 a.m.  
FOX TECHNICOLOR  
CARTOONS  
(New Programme)

SUNDAY 12.30 p.m.  
Marilyn Monroe, Jane  
Russell in  
"GENTLEMEN PREFER  
BLONDES"  
Technicolor

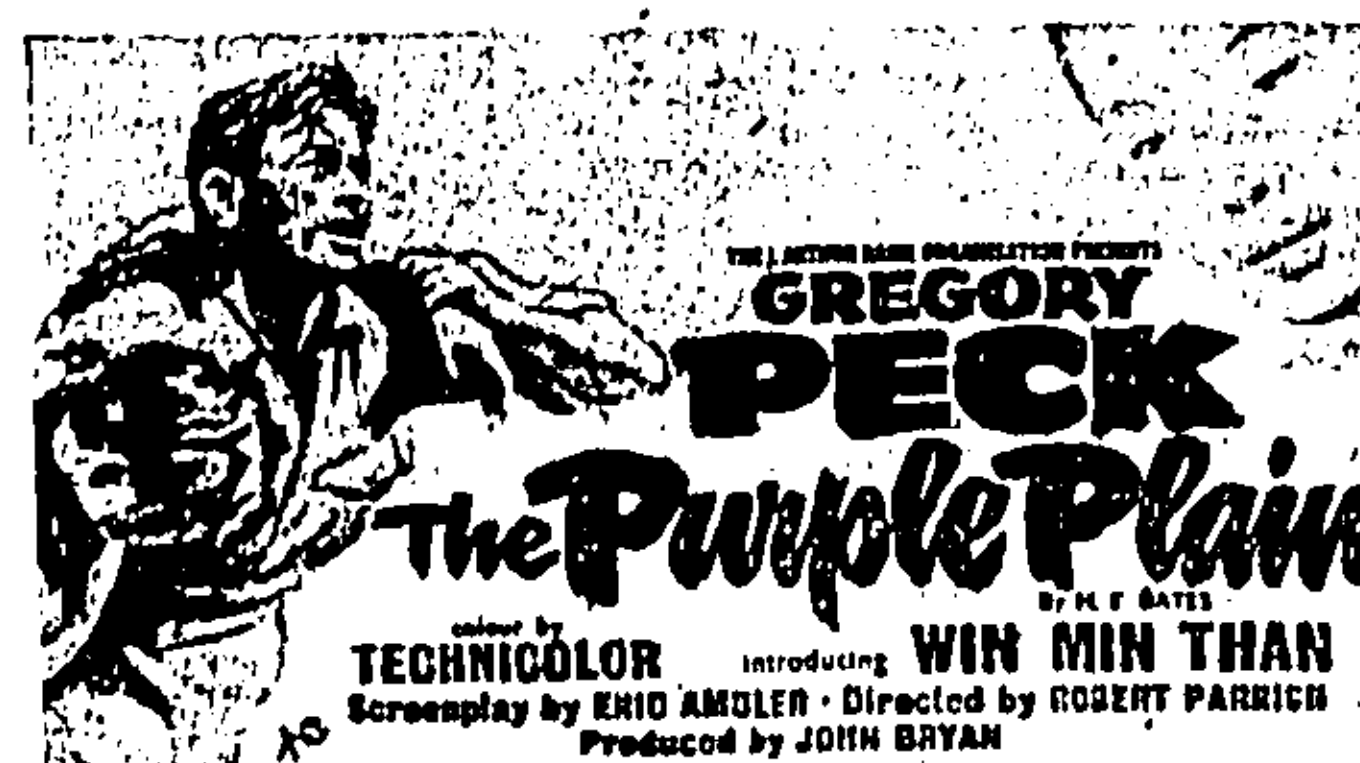
MONDAY 11.00 a.m.  
DISNEY'S TECHNICOLOR  
CARTOONS

MONDAY 12.30 p.m.  
Richard Widmark in  
"NIGHT AND THE CITY"  
All at Reduced Prices:  
\$1.00 & 70 cts.

# LEE GREAT WORLD

DAILY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

## SHOWING TO-DAY



INTERNATIONAL SOCCER  
WOLVES v. HUNGARIAN  
at LEE THEATRE only

EXTRA PERFORMANCE TO-MORROW  
LEE at 12.00 noon. GREAT WORLD at 12.30 p.m.  
"THE PURPLE PLAIN"

# ROXY & BROADWAY

## GRAND OPENING TO-DAY

Owing to length of picture, please note change of times:  
At 2.30, 5.10, 7.30 & 9.40 p.m.



ADDED ATTRACTION!  
CINEMASCOPE Short Subject  
"FLYING TO JISH" in TECHNICOLOR  
BROADWAY: 5 Shows To-morrow, Extra Performance  
at 12.00 noon  
ROXY & BROADWAY: 5 Shows To-morrow, Extra Performance  
at 12.00 noon

# FILMS—CURRENT AND COMING

By JANE ROBERTS

The KING'S, EMPIRE and PRINCESS have chosen one of the best Martin and Lewis pictures for a long time as their Christmas show. Completely American in treatment, humour and sentiment, it's nevertheless fun for everyone.

Of equally universal appeal is the costume melodrama (I'm not very fond of the word "awashbuckler") at the HOOVER — "Star of India". This theatre will possibly be playing "Crimes of Paris" between "Star of India" and the New Year show "Apache".

"The Black Knight" is at the QUEEN'S and ALHAMBRA, "The Student Prince" at the CAPITOL and LIBERTY and "The Purple Plain" at the LEE and GREAT WORLD.

"Desiree" is showing at the ROXY and BROADWAY.

Martin and Lewis usually manage to combine their crazy doings with an unusual story and "Living It Up" is no exception. The screenplay is adapted from the successful Broadway production, "Hazel Flagg", which in turn was taken from an earlier show in which Frederic March appeared.

The two comedians are a pair of small town boys who take all the city slickers for a ride — unintentionally at first, but as events move too fast for them, they're forced to carry on the deception.

Martin, a doctor you wouldn't allow near an out of condition goldfish, has diagnosed Lewis as suffering from the effects of radio activity and given him only a short time to live.

Along comes a newspaper reporter with the idea of granting (with great publicity of course) the last wish of the "dying" man. Janet Leigh persuades her newspaper to finance a trip to New York for Lewis, with every thrill in the book thrown in for good measure.

By the time Martin has discovered where his diagnosis went wrong, it's impossible to back out of the situation and with an "in for a penny, in for a pound" gesture he decides to help his friend take advantage of the big city's interest.

The crazy pair's doings in New York constitute the main part of the picture.

You'll no doubt have heard of Sherree North who had such a lot of publicity at the time that Marilyn Monroe wasn't doing all that her studio required of her. In this film she dances a number with Lewis that can only be called exuberant.

### PUBLIC SPIRITED

"Crimes of Paris" has a lurid-looking press book and appears to be on the lines of the Montesi case that has stirred up so much mud in present day Italy.

It claims to be based on a case "which shocked the entire city of Paris" and the company filming it states that their intention was to demonstrate how close co-operation between the police and the public can bring about justice, even when confronted by the most skillful of criminals. How public spirited!

The latest American actor to join King Arthur's Court is Alan Ladd. Complete with the page-boy hair-do of the period, black and white costume, and his well known grim look, he can'ters around medieval England avenging wrongs and getting locked up in castle dungeons—



Ann Blyth, Edmund Gwenn and Edmund Purdom in a scene from "The Student Prince".



Napoleon and Desiree (Marlon Brando and Jean Simmons respectively) are watched with apprehension by his brother and her sister in "Desiree".

from all of which he escapes spectacularly, naturally.

Had she really lived in those days I can't help feeling that Patricia Medina would have succumbed to pneumonia, dressed as she is in the picture. Draughts and colds are not the places for plunging neckline. However, she looks a dream and that's all that matters in a film of this kind.

The attractive voice of Elton Hayes is heard in a ballad he wrote himself and other music is played by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

You'll see various other well known character actors in "The Black Knight", among them André Morell who played the part of the servant so well in "Elephant Walk"; piercing eyed John Laurie and the television star Peter Cushing.

### RURITANIA

Sigmund Romberg's operetta, "The Student Prince" has been performed innumerable times but, as she did in "Rose Marie", Ann Blyth seems to give it a new lift.

sequences in which Edmund Purdom is required to sing.

Two stars almost make off with the acting honours in "The Purple Plain": Maurice Denham as the jassy little wingless wonder who eventually cracks up, and Brenda de Banzie, the formidable Scottish missionary with the humanity of a saint.

Some of the best scenes in the picture are the acid exchanges between Gregory Peck as the very gallant Squadron Leader and Maurice Denham, H. E. Bates, the author, having been in the RAF during the war, has an excellent insight into the relationship that would exist between these two.

Peck, ensnaring by nature, has been made even more careless of his personal safety by the death of his wife in an air raid. He is also a flier, making an even wider gulf between the non-flying Flight Lieutenant and himself.

When the aircraft of which Peck is the pilot, Denham the passenger and Lyndon Brook the navigator (very good, this boy) crashes in the jungle, their essential difference in mental make-up comes to the surface.

By this time Peck has met a soft-spoken Burmese girl who has given him a new interest in life and it's thoughts of her that spur him on to making the superhuman effort of getting the three of them back to base.

Before leaving "The Purple Plain" I must mention Bernard Lee. At the beginning of the picture I thought he was miscast as the RAF doctor and that he is much more at home as an NCO. Before it was over, I changed my mind and give him full marks for a very sincere performance.

### NOT FIERY ENOUGH

The chief difficulty that must have faced the makers of "Desiree" was how to make both Marlon Brando and Michael Rennie sympathetic characters without sacrificing the interest to be derived from their conflicting ideologies.

The despotic Napoleon could never have anything in common with Bernadotte, the man of peace, except a love for the same woman and in order to paint the former in more glowing colours than he would seem to deserve it's been necessary to make Bernadotte rather a cold man.

Now don't point out to me that either of them were supposed to be this or that in real life. I'm thinking entirely in terms of what makes an interesting picture and for this there must be sufficient contrast between the main characters to enable them to stand out definitely, one from the other.

Somehow the gentleness with which Brando plays the very definite Napoleon puts him too close to the serious Bernadotte and although I always seem to be complaining of all black and all white characterisations on the screen, in this case I would have preferred a more fiery Napoleon in order to allow Bernadotte a few more degrees of warmth.

In spite of everything, if I could see only one film over the holidays, I would choose this one. It has enough British accents to make me feel at home, Brando and Rennie are always good to look at, however much I may disagree with their conception of a part, and Jean Simmons is perfectly cast as Desiree. In addition, there's the indestructible beauty and poise of Merle Oberon as the Empress Josephine.

Happy filmgoing.

# RITZ SHOWING TO-DAY



TO-DAY ONLY MAJESTIC AIR-CONDITIONED AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



# QUEEN'S 5 SHOWS TO-MORROW

"THE BLACK KNIGHT"

EXTRA PERFORMANCE AT 11.30 A.M.

# QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

## SHOWING TO-DAY



# QUEEN'S

SPECIAL MORNING SHOWS  
AT 11.30 A.M.

DEC. 26th — SUNDAY

Columbia's

ALL-NEW VARIETY PROGRAM  
(3 STOOGES — COLOR CARTOONS)

DEC. 27th — MONDAY

Walt Disney's Technicolor

"PETER PAN"

AT REDUCED PRICES!

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ON PANORAMIC SCREEN

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CAPITOL LIBERTY

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M-G-M presents

TOM & JERRY

Technicolor Cartoons

(The programme will be changed everyday)



The Pickwick Papers  
January 12, 1955  
9.15 p.m.

at the Lee Theatre.

Clare Keswick  
Chairman  
Premiere





HARRY  
O'DELL  
says

In wishing our business associates and friends the Compliments of the Season we point with pride to our past work as film distributors and theatre exhibitors.

Our recent releases included such successful films as "Bean the Devil", "Innocent in Paris", "Jack Stale", "Fighter Attack" and "Riot in Cell Block 11".

At the Empire Theatre, on the screen, we gave you such outstanding pictures as "Stalag 17", "Roman Holiday", "Little Boy Lost", "The Glass Mountain" and "Knock on Wood". On the stage we gave you the pianist Jan Smeterlin, the Sino-British Orchestra and the world famous colt, Pierre Fournier.

For a brighter box-office future we are readying such Allied Artists releases as "Arrow in the Dust" in Technicolor, with Sterling Hayden, "Tonight's the Night" in Technicolor, with David Muen, Yvonne de Carlo and Harry Fitzgerald, "Along Came Jones" with Gary Cooper and Loretta Young, plus a load of bigger and better pictures.

To our Empire picture patrons we say that all our efforts are towards healthy and better entertainment. A greater number of theatres means less availability of good pictures but we are fortunate in having signed up for 1955 "Paramount" pictures, who will give you, among many others, such pictures as "White Christmas", "Sabrina", "Rear Window", "About Mrs. Leslie", "Strategic Air Command", etc. etc.

On the stage of the Empire we start off 1955 by giving you Julius Katchen, of whom Time Magazine says: "He is one of the greatest living pianists to-day." He appears on 5th and 6th January.

With all the difficulties to-day confronting the local entertainment world for one reason or another, we remain in business because, in striving for the best, we have made many friends and to all we extend our best wishes for the holiday season.

International Films, Ltd.  
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## Interesting News Stories From All Parts Of The World

### A Young English Teacher Shows Egyptians

## The Difference Between Belly And Ballet Dancing

Cairo.  
An 18-year-old English beauty is trying to tell Egyptians the difference between ballet and belly dancing.

### A London Cab

## 750,000 Miles And It's Still Going Strong

Victoria.  
"Piccadilly Nell," like many an old timer, came to Victoria to rest.

Like many a person who has laboured all his life, however, the old English taxicab has found a life of leisure pretty dull and is going back to work.

It will not attempt to duplicate the 750,000 miles she did through London—but it will travel through West coast states, across Canada from Alberta to Montreal and then go by ship to British Columbia.

Mr. Courtney Haddock, Manager of the Woodward's department store, said "Nell" will make her tour "probably in May or June."

**PROMOTION TOUR**  
The cab is being borrowed from the Woodward's, who own her, by a Canadian manufacturing company which celebrates its 75th birthday in this country next year. The promotion tour is to prove the durability of the car, which has driven three quarters of a million miles without having its main bearings replaced.

Mr. Haddock said "Nell" would be shown at the London motor show after her appearance at U. C. House, and then would be brought back to Victoria.

"Nell" had more trouble than most subjects of the British Commonwealth in getting into Canada, due to the Federal Government ban on used cars. The Woodward's finally had to get special dispensation from Ottawa before she could leave the ship.

Mayor Claude Harrison cloak of office and all, was the first person to drive the car here.

**LENT TO VANCOUVER**  
It was later lent to Vancouver to raise money for the European Relief Fund—with Sophie Tucker riding as guest of honor.

An English immigrant, formerly in the transport business, has volunteered and been accepted to drive "Nell" on the tour so he can take his wife and family home for a visit—United Press.

Ursula Taylor, of London, has opened a tap-and-ballet school in the fashionable district of Zamalet here.

She predicted that in ten years' time, Egypt will have good ballet troupes of native dancers and said "Egyptian girls have good figures for dancing. Ballet would give them grace, posture and deportment."

### 18 Pupils

Miss Taylor has 18 girls under instruction. They range from 4 to 13 in age, including Egyptians and foreigners.

Ursula started studying ballet at the age of two-and-a-half. She became a member of the British Arts Association, the Amateur Ballet Association, the Royal Academy of Dancing, and won several dancing medals before acquiring her Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing degree two years ago. She said she was so imbued with the art of the ballet that she often caught herself standing in "third position"—a ballet step.

"Ballet instruction here," she said, "tends to make children dance on their toes in two weeks. This is the mistake of the parents rather than the teachers. They want to see their daughters in shows as soon as possible."

### No Technique

"Ballet here has no technique—absolutely none at all. It aims only at attractive, good-looking, flashy steps. To cover up the 101 mistakes they make, the girls are made to wear dresses the price of which makes parents scream."

The pretty English ballet teacher had no kind word for belly dancing. "It is vulgar," she said. "A few stars perform it with art, but generally belly dancing depends entirely on what the costumes are not covering, and the way those parts are gyrating."—United Press.

### No Peace At All For Henpecked Hubbies

Istanbul.  
Irate wives, armed with sticks, broke up a men's meeting in Izmit province northwards. Turkey recently according to reports reaching here, and dragged their husbands off home before Police could intervene.

The interrupted session was the annual congress of the provincial "henpecked husbands' association."—United Press.

## In Search Of Salami

New York.  
Federal agents have just fought an engagement with some intentional smugglers. The score: 176 Salamis seized as contraband.

For four weeks sharp-eyed customs inspectors, aided by agents of the U.S. Bureau of Animal Industry, delved into the baggage of travellers arriving here from Mediterranean ports.

Again and again their hands touched an alien object among the shoes and socks—a Salami. The "smuggler"—an innocent tourist in most cases—was sent on his way minus the elegant shaped delicacy he had carried 3,000 miles from sunny Italy or Greece.

"We hate to do it," said Dr. F. L. Herchenroeder of the Bureau of Animal Industry, "but those Salamis can be dangerous."

### DAMAGE TO LIVESTOCK

The damage is not to the Salami lovers, but to the American livestock.

Dr. Herchenroeder explained that to qualify for importation into the United States, foreign meat products must be inspected and found to be free of foot and mouth disease. Tourists in Europe frequently buy Salami which has not passed such inspection.

Human beings cannot be harmed by meat from livestock infected with the disease, but if scraps were thrown into a garbage pail and handed to a pig farm, the pigs might catch it.

### REMINDER TO TOURISTS

Travel agents here and in southern Europe are being asked to remind tourists to think twice before packing up a Salami to take home as a souvenir. At the same time, U.S. Customs officials are considering whether to invoice 100 per cent inspection of baggage inbound from Mediterranean ports.—United Press.

### SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"But I'm late for the Jones' party! Besides, you wouldn't want your children to hear about this, would you?"

## PLAN TO 'DE-SMOG' LONDON

London.  
A government committee mapped one of history's most ambitious undertakings—to de-smog London.

Two years ago 4,000 people died of complications due to the smog in London in one month. The committee set up after that catastrophe reported that the city's smog and fogs could be banished forever.

It found that "air pollution was a social and economic evil of the first magnitude," and said it was costing the country \$700,000,000 a year.

The report was expected to form the foundation of Government plans for dealing with the problem. Millions of homes and thousands of factories will be affected if the report is implemented.

### SMOKELESS ZONES

The report recommended establishment of smokeless zones where smoke from chimneys would be forbidden.

## Christmas Tree 'Harvest' Reaches A Peak

Toronto.  
Christmas trees from private reforestation projects, were being shipped all over Ontario and into the United States last week as plans for the holiday season reached a peak.

Truckloads of evergreens can be seen along the highways every day and come late are covered with big and little trees which come from sandy soil that was once thought a complete waste.

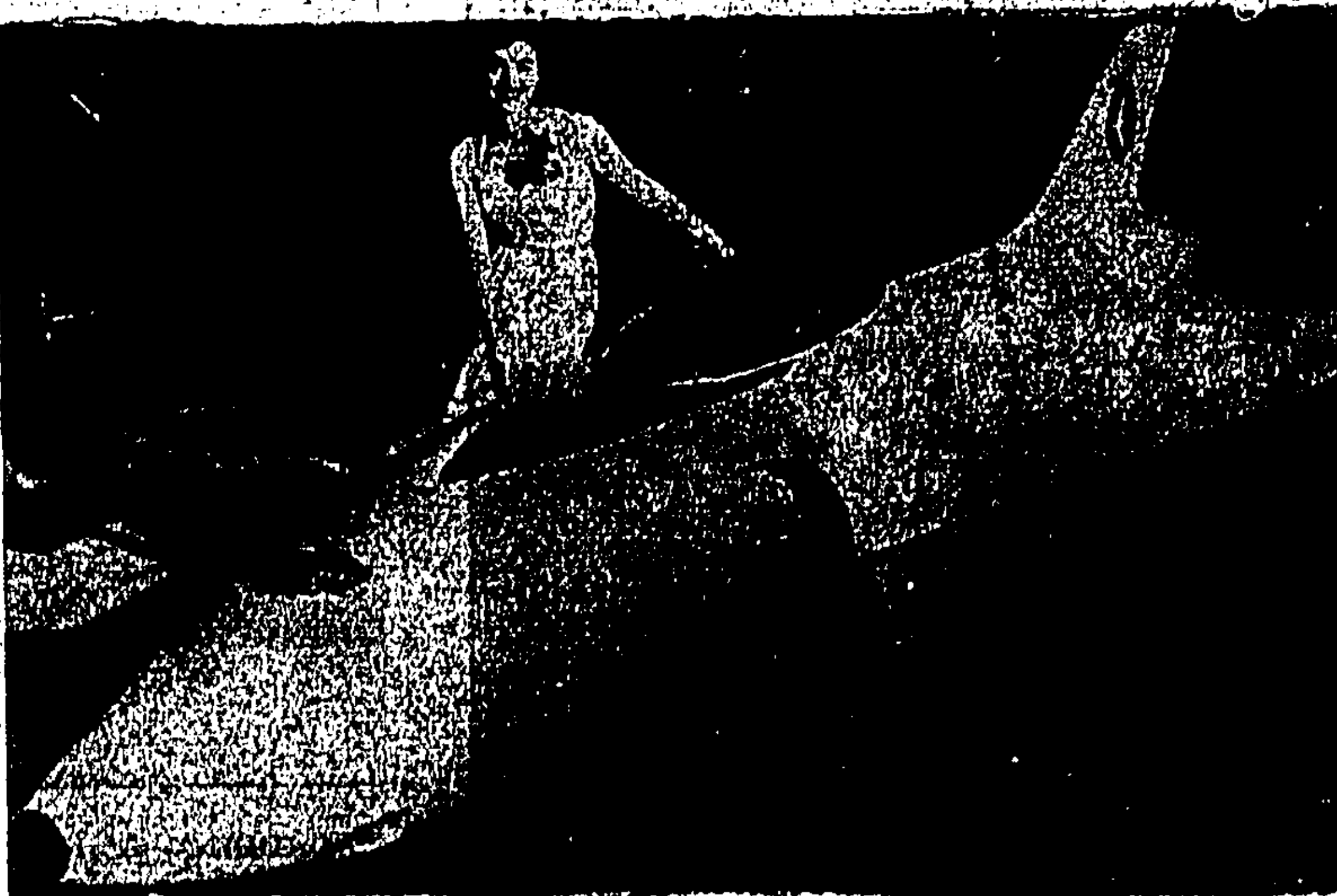
Hills of sand that were considered useless and sold for \$8 not long ago are selling for \$20 today as the Christmas tree farming business comes into prominence.

Department of Lands and Forest nurseries along the ball rolling and for many years gave trees away. In recent years, however, there have been so many takes they have been forced to charge about \$10 per thousand of the baby trees.

One of the major areas where tree-growing has come into prominence and increased the value of the land is in Norfolk county near Lake Erie, and in other parts of the tobacco belt. Here the trees are used as windbreaks for the sandy tobacco fields that yield a rich harvest every year.

Another large plot of land used for growing trees is the Vivian Forest near Sutton, on Lake Simcoe.

### Canada's Car Of The Future



Among the interesting exhibits on view at the General Motors "Motorama" Show, now in progress at Exhibition Park, Toronto, Canada, is the "Car of the Future". This is the XP-21 "Firebird", the first U.S. built gas turbine car. A one-seater, it looks more like something from outer space than a car and is attracting a great deal of interest at the exhibition. —London Express Photo.

### Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

By Robert L. May



## HOOVER

NOW PLAYING  
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30  
& 9.30 P.M.

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CORNEL WILDE  
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## ORIENTAL

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& 9.30 P.M.

ON OUR GIANT WIDE SCREEN



SPECIAL MORNING SHOW FOR HOLIDAYS DAILY  
AT 12.30

TO-MORROW: Bud & Lou in "DR. JEKYLL & MR. HYDE"  
SUNDAY: Ray Milland in "THE THIEF"  
MONDAY: Gary Cooper in "HIGH NOON"

## ALHAMBRA

Special Morning Shows

— At 11.30 a.m.

Dec. 25—CHRISTMAS DAY  
Warner Bros. VARIETY PROGRAM

Dec. 26—BOXING DAY  
Columbia's "SALOME" Technicolor  
Rita Hayworth

Dec. 27—MONDAY  
Abbott and Costello  
Universal's MEETS DR. JEKYLL

REDUCED PRICES: \$1.50, \$1.00 & 70 Cts.

DINE

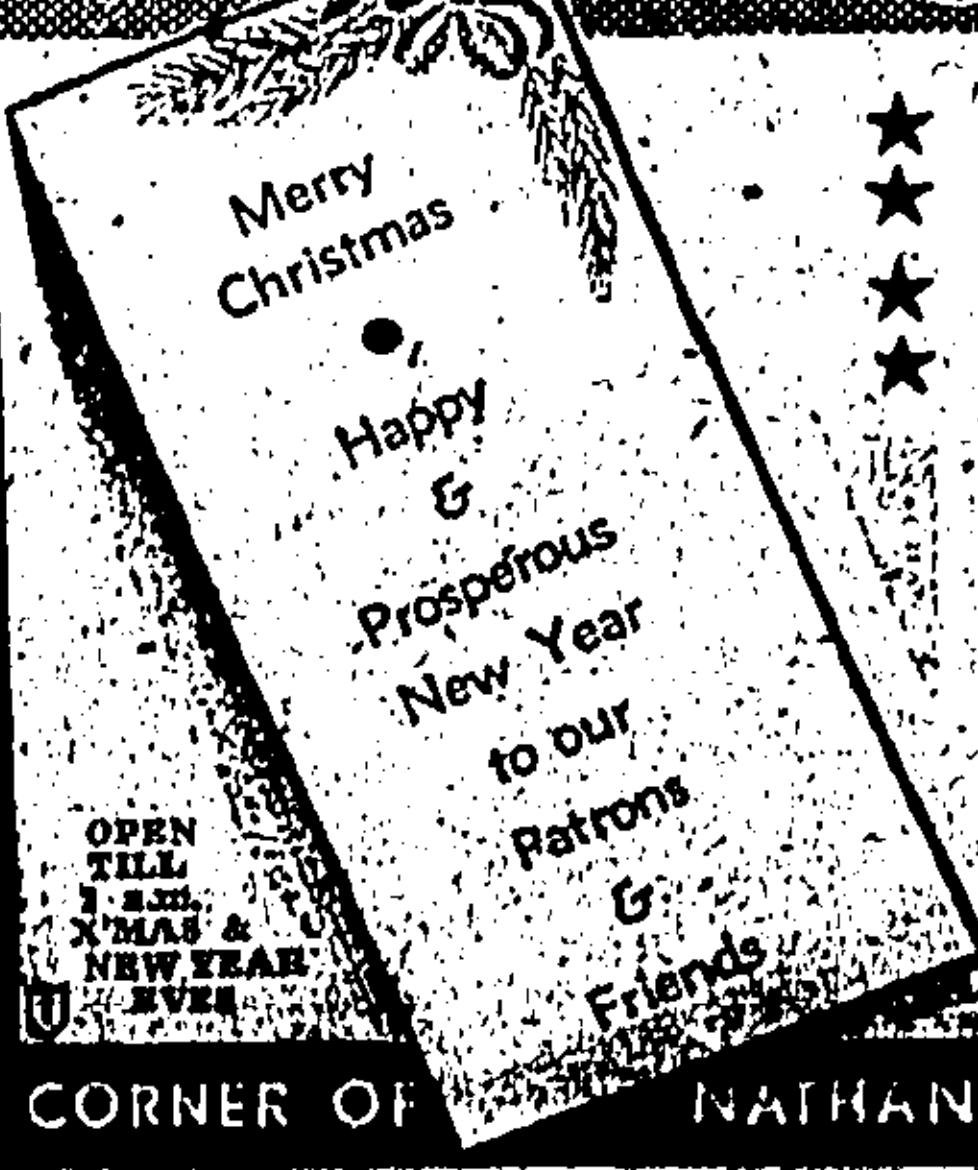
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★ X'MAS DAY — Special Dinner Dance  
★ NEW YEAR EVE — Gala Dinner Dance  
★ NEW YEAR DAY — Special Dinner Dance

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TINA LAINE  
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# HOMESIDE PICTORIAL



HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, accompanied by the Dean of Westminster and followed by the Duke of Edinburgh, leaves Westminster Abbey after attending the British and Foreign Bible Society's thanksgiving service. (Express)

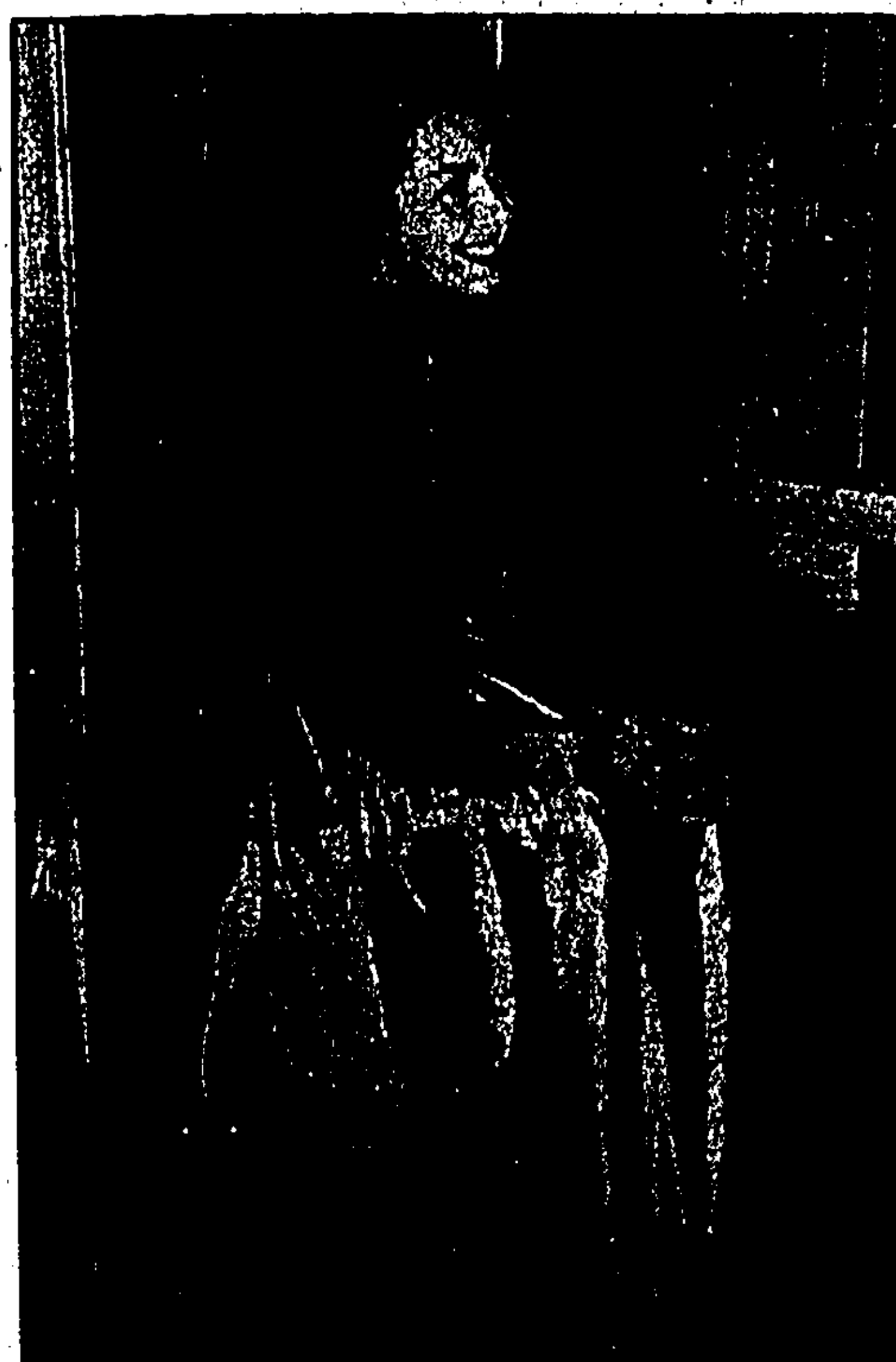


PROFESSOR Albert Edward Richardson, 74-year-old architect, who has been elected President of the Royal Academy in succession to Sir Gerald Kelly. He once described the modern age as that of nylon, pylon and skylon. "Rome in its decline, with its orgies and entertainments, is mild compared with the vulgarity of today," he said. (Express)



PRINCESS MARGARET attended the performance of "Cinderella on Ice" in aid of the Young Men's Christian Association at the Empress Hall, London. The Princess is being presented with a bouquet by Miss Betty Van Lare, who is from the Gold Coast. (Express)

RIGHT: The largest postwar parade of Britain's Home Guard took place the other day at Wembley. Seven hundred men representing all the Home Guard battalions in Middlesex, together with the 6th Heris Battalion, took part. Here Lt-Gen. Sir Francis Festing, GOC-in-C Eastern Command, inspects the men. (Army News)

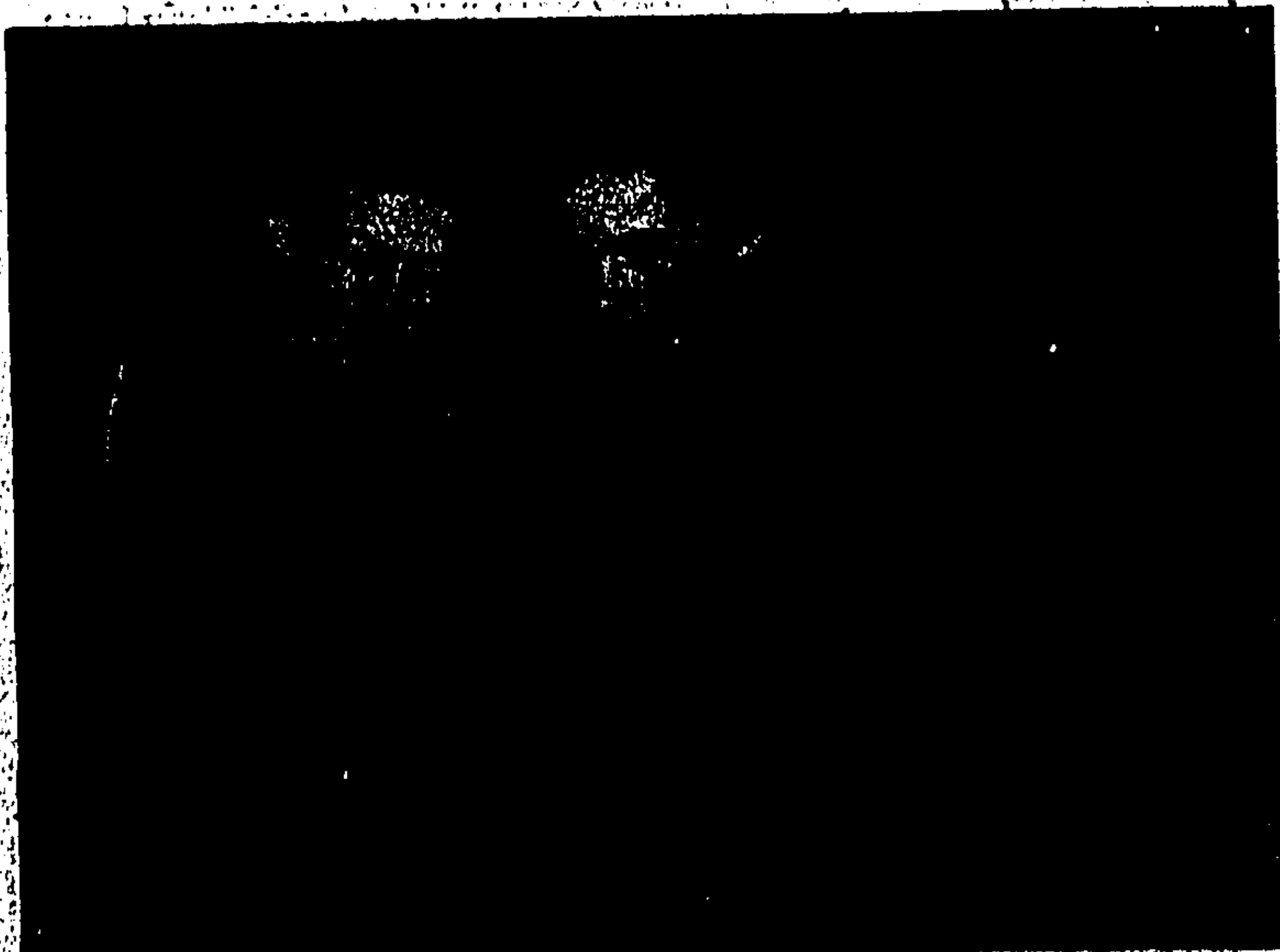


LEFT: The Countess of Dalketh, daughter of Mr and Mrs John McNeill of Hongkong, snapped at a party given in London to celebrate actor A. E. Matthews' 85th birthday. (Express)

PICTURED here is underwater explorer and photographer, Hans Hass, with his wife, Lotte. Together they attended the London premiere of their film, "Under The Caribbean," and they are demonstrating one of the underwater cameras they used in the film's making. (Express)



THE famous old sailing clipper, Cutty Sark, launched at Dumbarton in 1869, making her last voyage, under tow from the East India Dock to her permanent berth at Greenwich.



SOME of the 2,000 magnificent white turkeys being reared for the Christmas market at Monkton Court Farm, at Minster-in-Thames, Kent. An employee is seen carrying a protesting bird back to the flock.



"ALADDIN" is this year's Chelsea Palace Pantomime. The Mayor of Chelsea, Councillor Guy Edmiston, gave a reception the other day to introduce the cast. Here is Violet Pretty, one of the beauties, stepping into a baby car to take her to the party.

## NANCY Aw, It's Only A Poem

By Ernie Bushmiller



THE 17th Independent Coy, WRAC, has won the Eastern Command Inter-Unit Rifle Competition at Hounslow, for the fourth time. Two members of the team, including their skipper, Sgt. J. J. Jones, who scored 184, and Sgt. A. J. Jones, who scored 184, won the trophy. (Army News)



In the pitch-black of the earth  
they fought starvation—and madness  
... for twenty dreadful days

DEEP in the bowels of the earth men were working in the twisting galleries of one of the largest coal mines in northern France. Suddenly there was a violent tremor followed instantly by a shattering explosion. A searing blast rushed through miles of underground roadways leaving death and wreckage in its path. Over 1,000 miners were doomed in this, the worst colliery disaster the world has ever known.

It was on March 10, 1906, at Courrières, near Lens in the Pas de Calais, that those working above ground level felt the earth shake. "I heard the dull roar," said a mine of the age, smoke and fumes of poison gas driving back would-be rescuers. Fire-damp, the miner's greatest dread, had struck again.

Then an astonishing step was taken by the engineers in charge of the mine. Only two days later they abandoned all attempts at rescue. They felt sure the raging furnace of flame, as well as poison gas, would have killed all below.

Nearly three weeks later a workman near the pithead rushed to one of the engineers shouting: "There are 13 corpses still alive—and they want to come up." The cage reached the top as a wondering crowd surged round. The 13, gaunt, filthy and emaciated, staggered forward. Not a bystander dared speak until one of the "ghosts" broke the silence with a strident laugh which sent shudders through every listener. It was Neny, one of the leaders of the men from the dead.

The "ghosts" had survived, without proper food or water, in a world of subterranean darkness over 1,000ft. below the surface for a period of 20 days. Yet there was to follow an even more incredible chapter in the drama of Courrières.

Those who survived buried alive owed their safety to two men, Henri Neny and Charles Pruvost, both reliable and experienced miners. At the time of the explosion Neny was working in a gallery 1,250ft. down, some way from the bottom of No. 3 shaft. He felt the blast of hot air which flung him to the floor and knocked him unconscious.

He came to in darkness and heard the groans of dying workmates. His legs were in pain and he called out for help. Four men answered his call. They were relatively uninjured. All of them had obeyed the "no matches below ground" rule and they were without a lamp that would work. But at least the air was breathable and there was no fire anywhere near. The explosion had occurred some distance away.

During the rest of that day they took stock of their position. The only food they had—meat sandwiches—was eaten to help them recover from the shock. They began to explore in the utter darkness with Neny in the lead. Everywhere they stumbled into great falls of earth, shattered pit-props and timber. They were cut off.

Without light it was difficult, but they continued groping round. Everywhere they stumbled over dead bodies of their comrades. Neny insisted that each body be searched for more food and bottles of cold coffee which he then rationed out.

Now and then they met pockets of choking gas, and in their desperate attempts to hurry away were often badly bruised and cut. Time meant nothing to them. Neny had a watch but could not see it.

On the third day a voice rang out, echoing along the narrow corridors of the mine: "We are saved!" It was Pruvost, with another party of seven, who had mistaken Neny's for a rescue squad. The two met and shook hands.

When they realised that no one had been saved the silence was a full and strangled. Neither party had any food left and one of them, a boy called Victor Martin, began sobbing.

His legs were growing more and more painful. Sleep was impossible. If a man dozed he would come round with a cry or a groan—a terrifying sound for the others.

On the fourth or fifth day Neny decided that it was time to move on again. Pruvost knew the mine better than anyone



## THIRTEEN MEN —and a MIRACLE

else, since he had worked in it for over 30 years. He and Neny worked out a plan to climb to the level of No. 3 shaft, 150ft. above them. Before leaving they made a final search for food. At the far end of the gallery they found a piece of dry and dirty bread. It was enough for each man to have a single mouthful.

One by one they began the steep and narrow ascent of an airshaft, and at last all reached the top. Suddenly Pruvost stopped. Between them and the

### C. D. T. BAKER-CARR

Tells another of the World's Strangest Stories

shaft bottom was a barrier of corpses, piled high to the roof. The bodies were lifted aside, and they moved on holding hands to keep together. They came to the stables and more dead horses. They filled pockets with grain and ate some while they had a short rest. But the awful stench drove them on, picking a way between the narrow-gauge railway for the coal-tuns. These confirmed belief that they were on the right route.

Neny and Pruvost noticed that the air was "dead." The whole shaft was blocked by a huge fall of earth. The boys sobbed openly, and even the men shed tears of disappointment.

One of the men muttered: "It's no use. We may as well die here." Neny and Pruvost alone refused to give up, and hope is always infectious. Back they went to the manager for more oats, but their mouths

were almost too dry to allow them to chew. Pruvost said he could find a way to No. 2 shaft. It was more than a kilometre away but it was a last hope. With hardly enough strength left to crawl, the emaciated men moved forward once more. Everywhere they came across dead miners and the work was beyond description.

Worn out, they stopped for rest, even though sleep was now a thing of the past. As Neny lay down he felt something un-

der the leadership of Pruvost and his uncanny sense of direction. Neny now had a fierce longing to see his wife and children once more before he died. But his legs were getting worse and as he dropped to the ground he told the others to go on and leave him.

"No, it is one or all—if you stay, we stay," said Pruvost. "Neny, you will not let your weakness kill these boys?" The pain-racked miner crawled on. Suddenly came a breath of fresh air and a light, swinging in the distance. They rose from their knees and actually half-ran, half-staggered forward.

The man holding the lamp was one of those who had descended after an interval to fight the fires still raging in parts of the mine. He shivered and pointed silently. After-wards he said that he thought they were ghosts come to meet him, rising out of that mass tomb.

Reaching daylight the 13 collapsed from exhaustion and being blinded by the unaccustomed light. They were taken to hospital, where all but one recovered. Young Victor Martin died; deadly consumption had been aggravated by his long and dreadful ordeal.

The day they came up was March 30, but the miracle of survival was not yet ended. That same day a boy named Noel heard the bell ring for the cage in No. 4 shaft close by his home at Sallaumines. No one

believed him, although he was insistent.

The mouth of the shaft had been blocked up with planks and then covered with straw and earth after the explosion. On April 3 these were removed and the following day Auguste Berthon was brought up alive. He had spent 25 days alone in the mine of death.

Berthon had been with a gang of men when the explosion occurred. All were unharmed. In vain they searched for a way out. Exhausted, Berthon begged his friends to let him die where he had fallen. They went on—to death. He fell asleep and woke refreshed. Groping about he found several bodies and took what food and drink there was.

Alone in that hollow silence, broken only by ominous cracks from a straining roof, most men would have gone mad. Fortunately Berthon had no imagination. He slept for most of the time, conserving his strength—for almost certain death.

His main worry was the onslaught by hordes of rats who fought him for his food and bit him terribly on the arms and legs. It was the rats that drove him in search of the shaft.

When he reached it and his ring on the cage bell went unanswered he made up his mind to die. The next day, when he had been rescued, he said he thought he had been down in the pit for "about a week."

The death-roll came to approximately 1,240—only those 14 men and boys survived the world's worst colliery disaster.

## WHERE ARE THE BILLY GRAHAM CONVERTS?

WALTER SCHWARZ searches for the 36,000 people who came forward at Harringay to answer the call of the American crusaders

LONDON. I HAVE been looking for 36,000 people. They are the Billy Graham converts, who "came forward" to register a decision for Christ after hearing the American evangelist preach at Harringay.

That was eight months ago. Then, each one signed a card. Today, the cards are stacked in the offices of the Billy Graham Follow-up Department in Kingsway.

A duplicate of every card was sent to the local vicar or minister of the applicant's choice. The vicars still have the duplicates.

But where are the converts themselves? Are they swelling the churches of Greater London, or have they gone back on their pledge? The Crusade organisers cannot give the answer. "We have kept no statistics of success," says the director of the Follow-up, the Rev. Bruce Reed. "We are far too busy sending out circulars and answering inquiries to count up how many are still with us."

Leaders of the Church have differing views. Says the Bishop of Barking, prominent supporter of Dr. Graham: "I have been deeply impressed by the continued success of the Crusade today."

Says Dr. Donald Soper, the Methodist Minister at Kingsway Hall, an expert on evangelism: "The crusade was an emotional manifestation that has not touched outsiders at all." No one can quote figures. In the crusading world, opinions are plentiful, facts are scarce.

There is nothing for it but to take a look at the churches. Not the selected showpieces of evangelism, but the ordinary parishes of average sinners.

2—How many of those were already regular churchgoers simply "reaffirming" their faith, and how many were "outsiders" or genuine converts?

3—How many of the genuine converts are still going to church?

Few of the vicars had to consult their cards. They had the answers off pat. Here are my total figures for these 20 Anglican parishes with a combined population of 420,000.

336 came forward at Harringay. That makes a fair sample of the Billy Graham total.

226 of these were regular churchgoers before. That is, two-thirds. Only one-third (110) can be called converts.

35 of the genuine converts are still going to the church of their choice. That is, about one in every three of the genuine converts.

Listen to what some of the vicars said. The Rev. W. H. Smith, Vicar of Holy Trinity, East Finchley: "I organised coach parties to Harringay. In the end I received 14 cards. Only nine were newcomers. Half a dozen of these were schoolchildren; none comes to church."

The Rev. E. Rigler, Vicar of St. James's, Muswell Hill: "I am perfectly satisfied. I had 38 cards, 15 of them from outsiders, and 10 of these are still with me. Their average age is 17. Billy Graham has produced a new spirit among the young."

The Rev. D. Stradwick, Vicar of St. Clement's, East Dulwich: "The net result has been nil. I had 17 cards; 16 of them were old faithfuls. I have seen nothing of the solitary newcomer."

The Rev. P. Brasell, Vicar of St. Paul's, Harringay: "It was right on Billy Graham's doorstep. I got 60 cards. Four-fifths of them were from children aged about 14. One little girl, when asked why she had come forward, simply pointed to another little girl who had also come forward and said: 'I came because she did.'"

Where, now, are the 36,000 Billy Graham converts? Apply my figures to the total, as any pollster would, and that figure appears in a new light.

The Crusaders themselves claim that the majority of the Harringay inquirers were not Church members. But if my sample is a fair one, no fewer than 24,000 were old faithfuls, and cannot be claimed as converts at all. Of the 12,000 who remain, fewer than 4,000 are still in the churches.

Have the Nonconformists had more lasting success? Says the Rev. Hubert Thomas, Assistant Secretary of the Free Church Federal Council: "We have no reason to suppose that Graham's more extensive in the Free Churches than in the Church of England."

And just to make sure, I telephoned half a dozen Methodist ministers. Their figures correspond to those of my survey.

How old were the converts? Here the Follow-up Department has some revealing figures. Says Director Bruce Reed: "A quarter of all the people who came forward were aged between 12 and 14. Eight percent were aged between five and eleven. 27 percent between 15 and 19. That is 60 percent under 19."

I conclude that Billy Graham's enduring effect on church attendance in London today is unimpressive. The figure published by the Crusade were misleading. There was no adequate sorting out of new converts and old hands, of adults and little children. And very many recruits it seems, have fallen by the wayside.

Next March, Dr. Graham returns to Britain. In London, he will preach at Westminster Abbey, which was more than 100 years ago that the

Return Visit

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ELIZABETH PAKENHAM solves that 'Father Christmas' problem

# Yes, let your children believe in Santa Claus

EVERY year someone tries to shoot down Father Christmas. This time it is because of the commercialism that surrounds him. Now they say he is just a sales-pusher, paraded around while December 25 was still weeks away.

Even if this is true why throw away the baby with the bath water? Father Christmas is a gala event in the child's fantasy-life. Belief in him has its roots in deep, human needs. So, parents, welcome him into your home!

Don't forget it is our children, not we, who create him. Parents may launch the idea of Santa Claus. It is the children who keep him alive.

Pilot him through seas of contradiction. Refuse to have him drowned, even when the facts are against him. You must have noticed the reluctance of children to stop believing in him. They guess or are told that "It's only Daddy," but they still cling to shreds of the legend.

"I know it's a man who comes after tea," said my seven-year-old, "but it's the real Father Christmas who fills our stockings, isn't it?"

## FANTASY Exciting journeys

CHILDREN are ingenious at adapting Father Christmas to modern conditions. A Wirral, Cheshire, reader, whose son objected to the narrowness of their chimney, was forced to leave a key in the front door.

Father Christmas then descended by plane, with a co-pilot called Bill. Supper was left for them, as they would be cold and hungry.

A Birmingham mother tells how her daughter brought herself into the picture. "She used to pretend she was the

favourite doll of Santa Claus, and accompanied him on all his exciting journeys."

Children will often repeat facts to prove their fantasy. A Walsall, Staffs, father was shown the tracks of the milk-cart in the snow which had fallen on Christmas Eve.

"Look, Daddy," exclaimed his son "you can see where Santa Claus has been in his sled to all the children's houses."

Of course, there are one or two warnings to be given. First, be careful you don't "play the game" too enthusiastically.

## A WARNING ... make him jovial

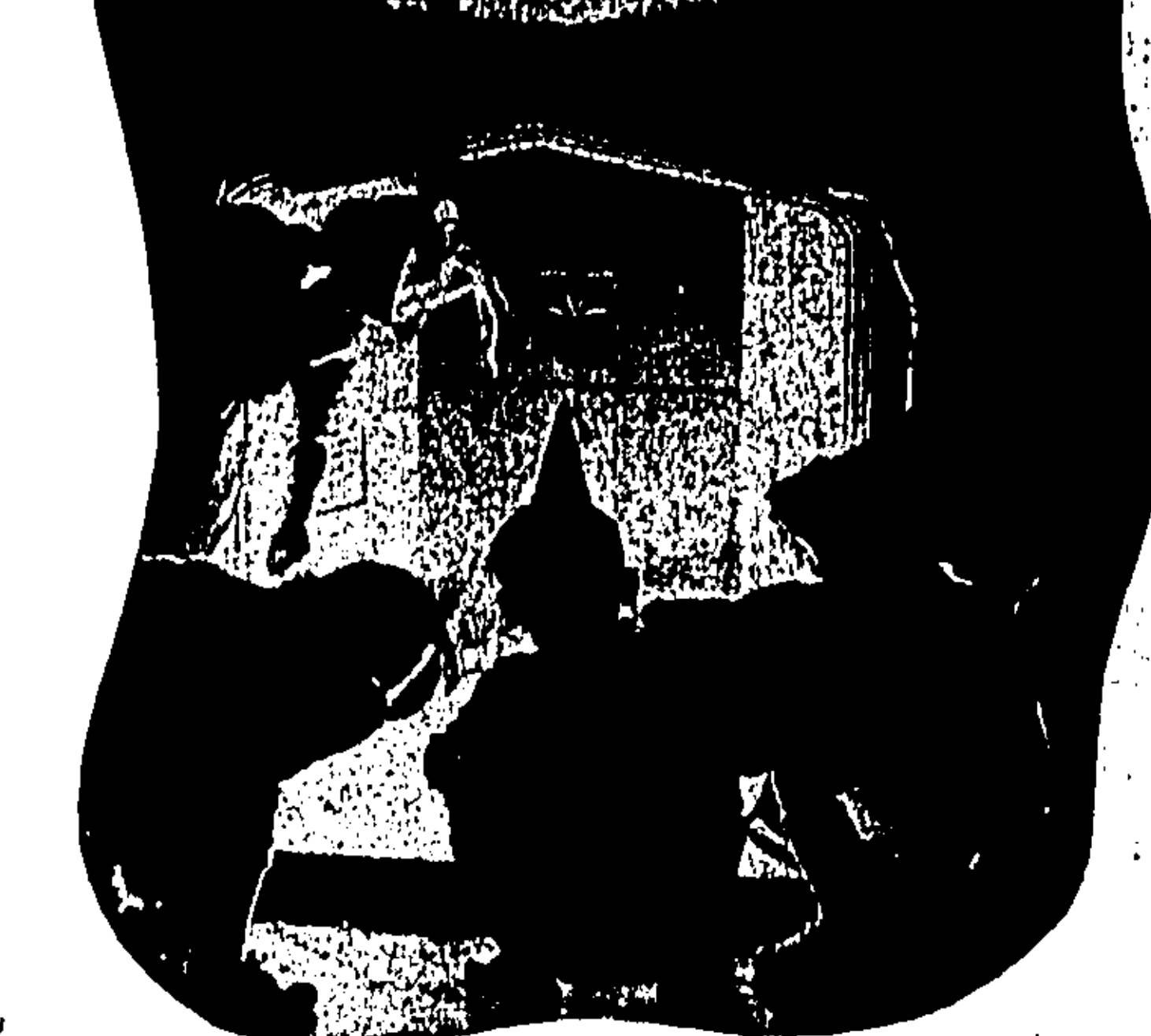
YOU may get the shock this Sussex reader received. "When my boy was three a friend put her hand up the chimney and produced a chocolate bar saying, 'Father Christmas must have put it there.'"

"Later I saw a black object descending our stairs. I put my head up my bedroom chimney," he explained, "to see if there was another choc bar, and all the soot fell on me!"

One other, more serious, warning. Young mothers should realise that toddlers are often scared of Father Christmas. So always pick them up. And keep on the outside of the circle.

You can also try this tip. Hatch out a "comic act" with father. Emphasise the jovial, rather than the mysterious side of Santa Claus's character.

Of Christmas my husband hobbled in announcing that he had got rheumatism in the Arctic. The children, even the



timid ones, shrieked with joy. When he accidentally slipped on the lino and toppled over, their cup was full.

When about the transition from belief in Santa Claus to disbelief? "A boy told me at school, 'There's no such thing as Father Christmas.' Must your child make such a crushingly bleak transition."

To say there is no such thing as Father Christmas is to carry fact to the point of pure materialism.

Why not tell the children who Santa Claus really was? The children's saint, St Nicholas, from Bohemia.

This is the time, too, to recall to them the true Christmas Story. Then they need not stop believing that someone else, besides Daddy and Mummy and Aunt Mary, sends them good things at Christmas.



Illustration by CUMMINGS

# GHOST CLUB

MARGERY ALLINGHAM, MARY FITT, LORD DUNSANY  
TELL THEIR SHIVER-TALES TO NANCY SPAIN

## The old lady and the voice

by MARGERY ALLINGHAM

AN old lady living all alone gets ready for bed one night.

She looks out of the door and locks it, and sits goes up to her bedroom and goes in and looks that door too.

And she looks in all the cupboards, and draws the window curtains, and she gets into bed.

It is a big four-poster. And as she pulls the curtains round her she hears a little faint voice—

"Now we're shut in for the night."

## Mrs Zachariah's guest...

by MARY FITT

MY aunt Dorothea Horn-winder, as you know, has a passion for country cottages. On one autumn evening she was walking along a valley road in Central Wales.

Mist was closing in and she was feeling dispirited, having looked at several uninhabitable cottages and finding herself now some six miles from the nearest town.

Then she heard a pebble fall. Close behind her was a small bent woman carrying a leather shopping bag. Soon they were walking and talking together.

"The woman's voice," said my aunt, "was just what I needed. I was so lonely and so tired."

over 80. We live alone in the Great House down in the valley. There are 50 bedrooms. And not heeding my aunt's protests she turned off the road.

Dorothea followed. Dimly through the mist she saw the Great House with its many windows, one of which, high up, was lighted.

Dorothea spent a pleasant enough evening playing cribbage with old Mrs Zachariah by the light of the paraffin lamp; she went to bed as Miss James was carrying in two glasses of hot milk and whisky.

In the night she was awakened by a smell of burning.

Fighting her way through smoke, unable to find her companions, she gained the outer air. She ran all the way to the town, and reached the fire station more dead than alive.

She woke up in the local hospital to find a doctor standing beside her bed.

"My dear lady," he said when she had told her story, "you are the victim of a hallucination. That fire occurred 20 years ago."

"Nonsense!" cried Dorothea. "I saw it! Those two poor women! They must have been burned alive!"

"They were," said the doctor gravely. "On the night of the fire Miss James planned to put poison in old Mrs Zachariah's hot milk and whisky, and then burn her."

"But I was not with them," said my aunt, "and I was not in the house when the fire started."



ILLUSTRATION BY CUMMINGS

"But how can you know?" said Dorothea. "Because," said the doctor, "I, too, happened to be spending the night in that house as Mrs Zachariah's guest. I supplied the poison. I was Miss James's fiancé, you see."

He leaned forward: "But don't tell anybody," he murmured. "I, too, died in the fire."

## And the maid screamed

by LORD DUNSANY

I WANDERED through the winter countryside until I came to a village where a great house stood.

Everywhere I went I heard the people talking of the ghost. "It will be here soon," they said. "It is the hundred years."

As I went up to the great house there were many familiar things. But I was not used to them.

But I was not used to them. But I was not used to them. But I was not used to them.



STACEY'S HEAD marks the route.

TOM STACEY reports the odd things he discovers in Africa

# I GET A RATES BILL in the jungle!

There are five patterns on sale, including one which has the word "Nothing" printed on it in five different dialects. But Sir Winston is the fishmonger.

Old Etonian TOM STACEY is nearing the end of his travels through largely-unexplored Africa. He flies back to England next week—and sends this message from French Equatorial Africa.

YANGO, Oubangui-Chari, French Equatorial Africa. In the middle of Central Africa's desolate savannah landscape somehow we did not expect to meet Sir Winston Churchill. But here he is in the tiny village shop at Yango, Oubangui-Chari, all dressed up like a comic opera admiral.

He is printed on a piece of cloth, manufactured locally (that means 400 miles away) from last year's cotton—the first that has been induced to grow here.

Just now it is the season for tornadoes; and if you get caught in a tornado you get very, very wet.

Most adaptive change for wet weather I have seen was created by a young woman caught in a tornado with a bunch of

bananas on her head. Off came her loin-cloth, and in a trice the bunch of bananas, halved and threaded with twine, took its place fore and aft.

Now for lunch, so let us along to the village market—20 feet square of baked earth—to sample local produce. As usual, everything is laid out on palm-leaf mats on the ground. Each little mat is watched over by an apparently disinterested African housewife sitting cross-legged beside it.

What's this? Toasted cockroaches? Yes, sir; tuppence a dozen. Taste like bits of fried fish-skin, without being fishy.

The black wiggly ones, in little heaps? Sun-baked caterpillars, mister; penny a pile. Well, well.

As I digest my caterpillars and beetles, and look back over this enormous, brilliant African landscape towards the jungle region from which we have emerged, I am prompted to recall the odd edibles we have so far sampled in Africa, without going out of our way to be exotic.

Here is a list: hippopotamus, crocodile, flying ants, grass tea, kola nuts (they are the local aphrodisiac), fish heads, monkey. Monkey is the best of that lot. There is more on a monkey than you would think. Roast monkey, looks like steak and tastes like it too.

It strikes me we are now just about slap in the middle of Africa, whichever way you hold your atlas. My calculations make the nearest railway hundreds of miles away in the Belgian Congo, nearest rate-assessor for semi-basement flats probably well over a thousand miles off in some West African seaport city.

All of this makes a certain document, which reached me by devious routes at my last mail collecting point, look (like Winston on the saron) a trifle out of place.

"Whereas," it began in Gothic type on dark blue paper, "Whereas John Shillito, a Rating Officer on behalf of the Royal Borough of Kensington," and would I appear, etc., etc., at 10 o'clock in the forenoon to show cause why I have not paid the said Rates or Assessments as charged and assessed on me as aforesaid.

Sorry, John—but I shall be home soon, and unless you want to be paid in snuffboxes and brass rings perhaps you would wait till then.

# BAN TALK SCARES BONN

By James Irvine

Bonn. GERMANS in Konrad Adenauer's newly-sovereign West German Republic are scared—scared by the big trial to outlaw the 600,000 strong local Communist Party.

Even the Government is beginning to have second thoughts.

The reason is simple enough. Up to now West German Reds have been on their best behaviour. They have called names, distributed leaflets and held mass protest meetings.

But they have been careful to keep clear of open violence and sabotage.

Good behaviour was their only chance. Their stock with the voters has been so low that there is hardly any chance that they would gain a single seat if an election were held tomorrow.

So long as they avoided violence, however, there was the hope that when the right time came a union with East Germany they could make a showing.

## Getting Ready

Now it looks as though they will be declared illegal, and leader Max Reimann and his henchmen are getting ready for a change in policy.

They have several thousand highly-trained saboteurs at their disposal. They have access to men, materials and money from East Germany.

More important, they have the burning fanaticism which makes it possible to persuade men to lay down their lives for a cause.

Adenauer's government has long felt that the Communists were a serious potential menace to the machinery of government.

In a country unused to democracy, he reasons, it is folly to tolerate parties whose avowed aim is to destroy democracy. For one thing, to tolerate the Communist party is to make it extremely difficult to deal with the resurgence of a Nazi party—a resurgence which is by no means unlikely.

## Big Business Backed Tubman's Visit

# AMERICANS HONOUR SLAVE'S GRANDSON

By Jacqueline Engert

FOR a month the grandson of a Georgia Negro slave was feted in America like royalty. He was wined and dined in Washington by President Eisenhower; acclaimed in New York by a mayoral luncheon, brass bands and a ticker-tape parade up Broadway. Throughout the country, he was honoured at costly banquets and bestowed with no fewer than nine university degrees.

Who was this conquering hero? Meet William Vannaman Shadrach Tubman, 68-year-old President of Liberia, one of the world's two Negro republics. He comes from the country founded in 1822 by freed American slaves on the hot west coast of Africa. His forebears, rejected by the New World, had a tough time building a nation in the fever-ridden country known to traders as the "Pepper Coast". But recently the United States stepped in to assist her forgotten sons. Now shrewd American businessmen have millions of dollars invested in Liberian rubber and iron.

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State Visit

SO it was that William Tubman, whose grandfather was a slave in Augusta, Georgia, and whose mother emigrated to Liberia from Atlanta, in the same state of the "deep south," came to America on a ceremonial state visit. And through the commercial interests he represents, he was able to tour freely through the country which is still racked by the racial problems bequeathed by the slaves who stayed behind to become one-tenth of the American people.

Because of the Liberians' popularity, there was speculation

lined the gracious streets of the capital to cheer him. Liberian flags fluttered down the lengths of Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues.

He was entertained at a banquet given by President Eisenhower and his cabinet ministers. The following day President Tubman entertained Mr Eisenhower at the new Liberian Embassy—bought only last May.

The Negro president was accompanied by the Queen Mother who visited the country at the same time. He rode to Washington in President Eisenhower's private plane. He was whisked about the vast American countryside in a cavalcade of screaming police cars. Teasing along the highway between Springfield, Illinois, and Chicago, the man from a slow-moving continent finally begged to be escorted more slowly.

They had been driving at 80 miles per hour. It also became familiar to see pictures in the American newspapers of the quiet, dignified, bespectacled African, puffing at a large cigar through a tortoiseshell holder.

There was a hard core of business mixed up with the ceremony and entertainment. It was principally a "business" trip. For one thing, Tubman made the familiar application for more U.S. aid. And he made a thorough tour of the industrial mid-west, appealing for increased capital investment in Liberia. The little country on the West African coast, whose population is about two and a half million, might economically be called a U.S. "colony"—"America's Malaya", in fact.

## Investments

ALL crude rubber—some 21 and a half million dollars worth annually—is shipped to America and accounts for ten percent of America's total rubber imports. American businessmen have an estimated \$20 million invested in Liberian rubber-growing, and are busily investing more. Another ten million American dollars are invested in mining iron-ore. Nearly sixty percent of Liberia's iron ore export comes to the United States. Total export last year was valued at over \$5 million.

So American big businessmen paid extravagant attentions to

## MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

BEGINNING DEEP SEA MYSTERY! A SMALL CABIN CRUISER DRIVEN TO SEA BY A SUDDEN STORM!



## GOLLY! I'VE NO CHARTS FOR THIS STRAIT—BUT IT'S DEAD TO GET BACK!

AND I'VE GOT PLINY OF OASIS!



## SUDDENLY THE BOAT JINKS TO A DEAR STOP!

THE PATHOMORPH SHOWS A HALF-MILE OF WATER UNDER ME! NO SHIP—NOTHING!



## TALK ABOUT MAGIC!





# Celebration Season . . . . . by Giles



"Now for peace sake—don't tell the Missus we've had a drink."

London Express Service

## Victim's Cries Were Drowned With Music

By A. J. FORREST

**F**RAULEIN ILSE G—, fluent in French despite her Munich upbringing and well attuned to Paris's naughty gaieties, plied until quite recently a thriving trade in the bars of the Champs Elysees. There, as a seller of morphine, she was wined and dined by drug addicts, potential addicts and traffickers. They had merely to contact her to buy as much dope as they pleased—at her price.

One day a new customer appeared. Satisfied with his self-introduction, she liked his debonair worldliness. While they drank together, her chief male companion, an Iranian subject, as deeply implicated in the narcotics business as she was, joined them and they got down to trade.

"We give you," said the girl, "two kilogrammes of morphine, because we much like you." She was now drinking her seventh liqueur. "And we let you have it," she added archly, "very cheap—for 8,200,000 francs."

It seemed a pretty stiff price, over £3,000 for just over 4 lb. of dope. But he agreed to pay. "We must collect the stuff in N's car," she said, referring to the Iranian, who ushered the two of them into his Studebaker and drove off to a shady spot in a quiet boulevard.

### Not Clinched

There the 4 lb. of dope changed hands, and the newcomer parted with his francs. But the deal was not quite clinched. "Would you mind driving me home?" he asked. "I don't like to carry about such treasure in public transport—you never know."

He gave them an address, and the Iranian—to his horror—found his car suddenly surrounded by a posse of Parisian police, who grabbed the two traffickers. Their agent, taking care of the dope, then went off to his office to write a detailed report.

Women in the international underworld, rarely playing dominant roles. They are only the necessary and as he sat with his back to her, she moved into the room, and the Iranian, who was a German subject, was

teamwork, ruthless aggression, or organising ability to conduct large-scale crime operations.

Where women belong to gangs, however, Interpol marks them down, mostly as girl friends of individual criminals. Some as such get to learn important secrets. As their charms age, so their knowledge becomes increasingly dangerous to themselves. Others, exploiting their attractiveness, may be useful to trap unwary tourists.

Nevertheless, in the field of murder women can hold their own with the most devilish male killers ever known. For preference, they use poison. But not always. Frau Elisa-

**The FULL, authentic inside story of INTERPOL, the organisation which fights international crime all over the world, which has been the means of bringing thousands of criminals to justice. Written with the full co-operation of the staff of INTERPOL.**

beth Kusian of Berlin, now serving a life term for double murder, killed entirely for monetary gain and used a particularly vicious method of dispatching her victims.

Getting into conversation near the Berlin Zoo with Hermann Seidelmann, a commercial traveller, who lived in the Soviet Zone, she found him anxious to exchange some eastern marks for west marks. This, she said, she would do if he would meet her at her flat that same evening. He accepted.

He arrived punctually and she ushered him into a well furnished parlour. There, after a few minutes' chat, he removed his coat, the atmosphere being deceptively warm and cosy while she made some coffee. She had switched on the wireless, claiming that she loved loud music, and as he sat with his back to her, she moved into the room, and the Iranian, who was a German subject, was

out a piece of clothes-line, already fastened into a noose and in an instant had slipped it over his neck and was pulling it tight with all her strength.

Her murderous assault made Seidelmann topple sideways off his chair. He actually rolled on top of her. But the 25-year-old nurse, divorced mother of three children, clung to her stranglehold with demonic power, and strangled him.

Then, with a terrifying callousness, she proceeded to dispose of his body, severing it with surgical skill into portions, which she subsequently dumped among ruins in both east and west sectors of Berlin.

To do this she borrowed a suitcase from a friend. When she returned, it there were blotches of blood on its lining. She apologised for them, explaining that she had used the case to carry home a number of skinned rabbits.

She used all the money she found on him, hid some of his clothes, and disposed of the rest in the hospital where she worked.

So, although his remains were soon afterwards discovered, and identified, not a clue emerged as to Seidelmann's killer. The nurse almost certainly would have escaped detection, altogether had she not killed again only three weeks after her first diabolical success.

She adopted precisely the same technique on Frau Dorothea Merten, a typewriter salesman, who she lured to her apartment, and

chine. She, too, put her lips to a fateful cup of coffee, and was viciously strangled with a noosed piece of rope from the same line.

Hardly was the woman's body on the floor, before Frau Kusian's lover knocked. "Just a moment," she cried. "Stay outside while I light the Christmas candles. Then the scene will enchant you." She lit the candles—it was Christmas Eve, 1949—then pushed Frau Dorothea Merten's body under the bed.

### Tell-tale Clues

Fortunately, Frau Merten, before she disappeared—she, too, was dumped in bits in various debris-littered hiding places—had informed friends about her typewriter dealings. The police called on Frau Kusian and found tell-tale clues, including garments belonging to both her victims. Had not a now German law been introduced only a few weeks before Frau Kusian's trial, rescinding the death penalty, she would undoubtedly have been executed.

Helene B., a woman of completely different character, of a timorous nature, mentally and physically, preferred to kill by poison. But she did it on a grand scale. Before justice caught up with her, she had, the authorities estimated, murdered five husbands, two of her children, and was charged, in addition, at her trial, with thirteen attempted murders.

This monstrous record began in 1938, when she mixed rat poison in some milk and gave it to her three-year-old daughter, Hilde. The child fell ill with paralysis. Her hair fell out. Within a week, she was dead. The doctor attending her never suspected foul play, but Helene B., keeping her poison secret to herself, decided to use it to pay off her grudge against mankind.

### Romantic Lure

She felt aggrieved because four of her children had died at an early age, and because her husband, who she had often beaten, had never allowed her sufficient house-keeping money. They paid for it on their death-bed, their bodies semi-paralysed, their teeth falling out.

When sentenced to death, this strange woman, born in 1907, accepted her fate calmly.

She was sentenced to death, this strange woman, born in 1907, accepted her fate calmly.

## SECRETS OF INTERNATIONAL CRIME

inquished hope of ever getting husband until she met Leonarda Cianculli. Then, with calculated peridy, this brazen woman, still in her forties, suggested that she knew of a serious-minded gentleman, a wealthy friend of hers, who needed someone to comfort him in his declining years. Perhaps, she would like to visit him? He lived, she said, at Pola, a town some distance away. The spinster, envisaging an unexpected fulfillment of her dreams of marriage, assented.

To heighten the imposture, the Cianculli woman began a fictitious correspondence, writing in the name of her mythical friend, Faustino, so building up an atmosphere of romance and marriage. Finally the spinster, overjoyed at the way things were panning out, came to bid fond farewell to Leonarda. She had dyed her grey hair blonde and sold her house.

The Cianculli woman, anticipating the spinster's visit, had a cauldron already boiling on her stove. Wildly, the spinster, she persuaded her to fit down and write some correspondence in advance, as if from Pola, saying how happy she was in her new situation, all arrangements for her marriage having been concluded. The spinster was practically illiterate, but Leonarda guided her hand, and post-dated the letters, also a few postcards, written in similar vein, to her few friends in Correggio.

### Unutterable Curse

Then, before the ink was dry, the murderess struck. Sneaking into his hiding place, she unlocked the door, already sharpened, she crashed it down, with fatal force, into the spinster's skull. Then, with incredible speed, she severed her remains, and disposed of them in the steaming soap-making cauldron.

Her twenty-year-old student son—proved innocent at her trial—was then sent to Pola and, on her orders, he posted the victim's reassuring letters and postcards. Her atrocious crime yielded her a profit of 30,000 lire, which in 1939 represented a very tidy nest-egg.

Her next victim, a 55-year-old former schoolteacher, Francesco Spavoli, was disposed of in precisely the same manner. But this killing yielded her a profit of merely 2,000 lire. So, within three months of her original crime, she embarked her third and last victim to her agonising death. This 55-year-old man, a teacher and former opera singer, was killed in Correggio.

The spinster's husband, who was a wealthy friend of hers, was killed in Correggio.

investigations were transferred to the Emilia criminal bureau, she could not escape.

Sentenced to thirty years' imprisonment, plus three years in a criminal asylum for the insane, this 41-year-old woman, while awaiting her unsuccessful appeal, wrote more than 1,000 pages of memoirs. She claimed that life had used her harshly. Of her twelve children, eight had died. The others, she feared, would also die prematurely, largely because her mother, just before dying, had laid an unutterable curse on her.

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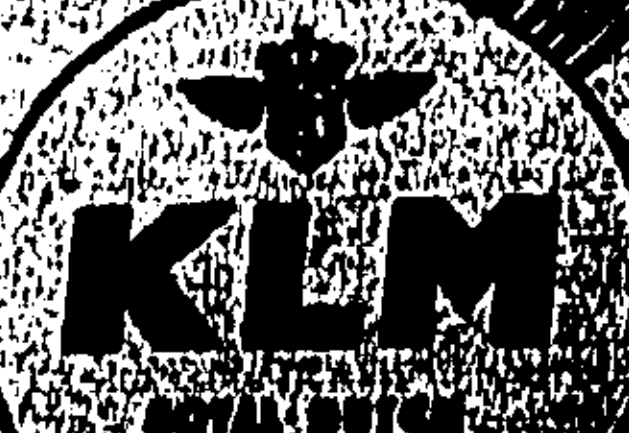
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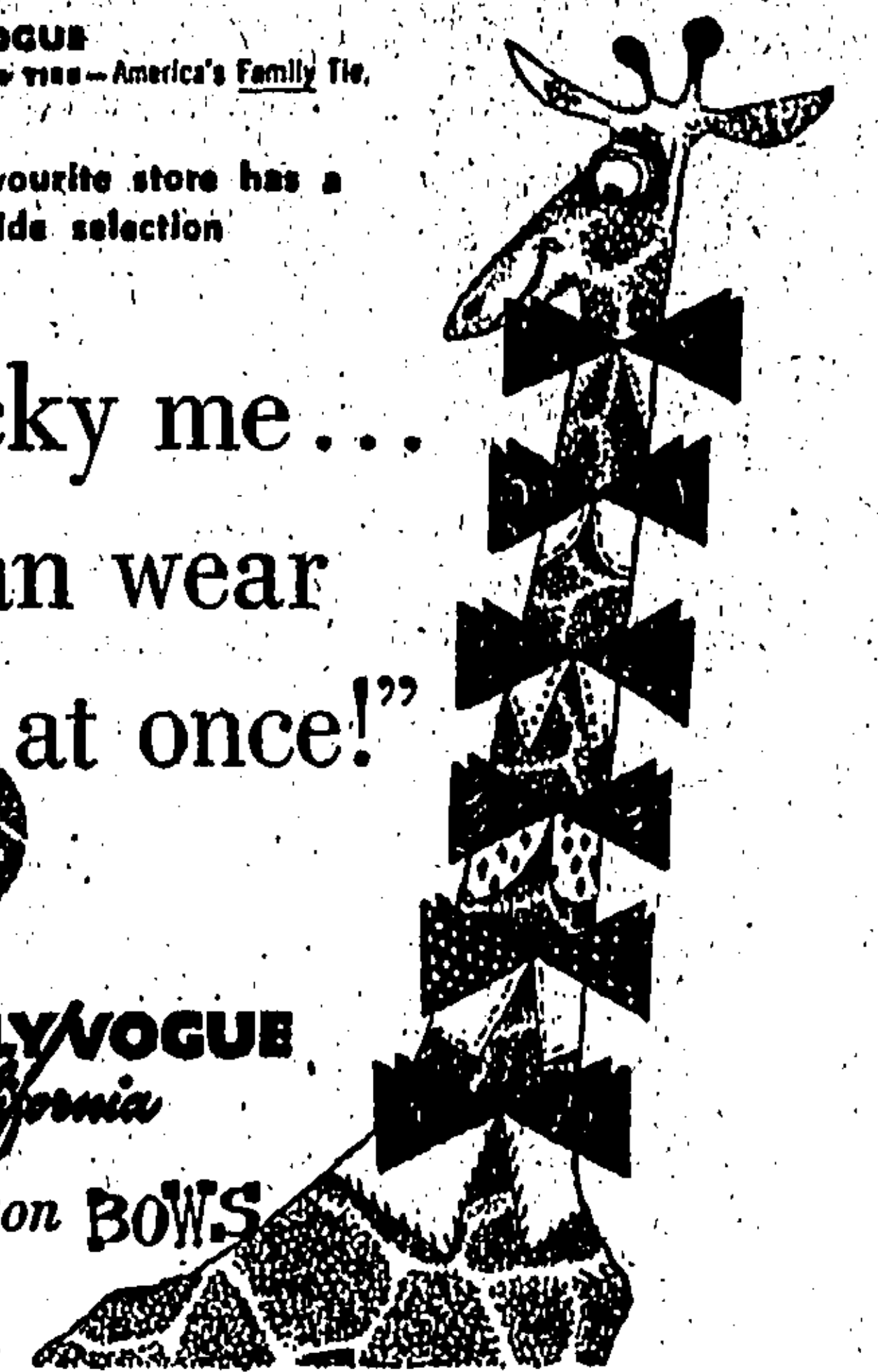
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Ricci Hall Jubilee Celebration  
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## WEEK-END WOMANSENSE

## Satin Evening Gown



Jacques Fath created this white satin evening gown encrusted with black tulle motif. —Agence France-Press.

Here is the new American beauty... the pace-setter for their girls of all ages, all sizes and—of all shapes

## THE KELLY LOOK

By ANNE SCOTT-JAMES

New York. FROM the day I landed in New York I wanted to meet Grace Kelly. Because wherever I went I heard her talked of as the new American beauty. The same aura of success that surrounded Audrey Hepburn two years ago hangs round Grace Kelly now.

It's not only the success of a magic career—six pictures in 12 months, including *Moulin Rouge* and *Rear Window*, and all the most gorgeous leading men from Gable to Grant.

More than that, she has become the pace-setter for all the girlhood of America. For the girlhood of America likes to live in the image of some ideal beauty.

Two years ago American girls—young or not-so-young, big-faced or small-faced, cropped their hair into the pixie wisps that suited the enchanting Audrey Hepburn so well.

They squeezed their bodies, tall or short, fat or thin, into pants and shorts and boyish little suits. Now, for better or worse, it's the Kelly Look that's on the way in.

A soft, feminine, gentle quality is going to dominate American fashion.

I lunched with Grace Kelly, so I can define this trend for you pretty accurately. Grace Kelly has soft blond hair which waves back from her face—so took for waves in the hair for the first time since the 'thirties.

SHE WEARS very little make-up—so look for soft, light lipstick, natural nail polish, unplucked eyebrows. And if you have blue eyes under the brows, you're in luck.

## Feminine clothes

SHE LIKES simple, but rather feminine, clothes; day dresses with velvet bows, long evening gowns rather than short ones.

So look for the return of soft dresses and of full length evening dresses which I have seen everywhere in New York, especially where the company was mostly young.

SHE HAS a soft voice, a sweet smile, and good manners, so look hopefully for these.

They admire her here not only for these qualities, which I liked, but for others which I personally care for less.

"She's got class," they all told me before I met her.

"She's a lady."

"She's got refinement."

"She's got poise."

I admit I began to dread our meeting because class, ladies, refinement and poise are not my meat and never will be.

But I think her admirers are unfair to her. She is a bit ladylike for an English taste, but this is offset by a young and touching eagerness.

"If I were asked what is the most wonderful thing to do in all the world," she told me with real emotion, "I would say: 'To watch Margot Fonteyn dance.'"

"I loved filming in Africa," she said, "because I went on several safaris. The men had to go into the bush to hunt for food and I would string along."

And when a trolley of fabulous, mountainous cakes came round with the coffee our eyes met across the table.



Grace Kelly

"I will, if you will," we said in one breath.

Well, that's my forecast of the way the American girl will look and behave in 1955.

And as American fashions have a way of moving East, I suspect that the English girl too is going to wear soft hair, soft clothes, natural make-up.

But will she go all out for coolness and class and poise? I wouldn't care to guess. I hope not—it sounds so dull.

## It's tough at the top

HOW would you like to earn from £40 to £60 a week as a top-flight American private secretary? You'd give your ears for the job?

I wonder. I've just been talking to one.

SHE has been secretary to the same man for 22 years.

SHE never took a day off for illness for the first 17 of them.

SHE worked far into the night and most week-ends during the early years.

SHE never plans a holiday. Just takes time off when the boss goes away.

SHE spends most of her day answering three phones and the boss's buzzer. She decides who shall see him or talk to him.

SHE does all his typing. Nobody else can read his writing.

SHE knows the Christian names of all his friends and their wives, remembers the birthdays of his family, and does all his Christmas shopping.

Her name is Corinne Thresher, known affectionately in her firm as "Miss T." Her boss? Henry Luce, of Time-Life and Clare Boothe Luce fame.

Still want the job? (London Express Service).

## Gorgeous Dress In Tulle



Nina Ricci's "Christine," a gorgeous evening dress in blue tulle on a background of taffeta and white tulle. It is brocaded with silver paillettes and white woolen flowers. The shawl is of blue and white tulle. —Agence France-Press.

## FAVOURITES OF LOFTY GIRLS

London. (14in.) tells me the kindest London store to the tall girls has a managing director with a special axe to grind. Mr. G. G. Giering is himself 6ft. 4in. and has two six-foot daughters.

Here are my basic fashion rules for tall girls:

Don't wear unbroken lines that stretch to the height. Use tip breaking, a contrast belt or the cardigan or jumper-suit line to break the long look.

Don't resort to completely flat shoes. They look peculiar in shoes. They look peculiar in shoes, and a small heel looks more elegant.

Choose hats, fur and wraps with a wide look—all take the eye away from the up and down sweep.

## FASHION POINTS

PEARLS have now moved from the neck to the wrist.

They make the newest, really new, and most charming—wrist pearls.

On black necks, a pearl necklace is a most effective contrast.

As an alternative to the pearl necklace, a pearl bracelet is a most effective contrast.

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## IS YOUR HUSBAND'S PAY PACKET KEPT A SECRET?

By ELIZABETH PARKENHAM

THAT housekeeping money is causing trouble again. Writes Mrs. Y, mother of an entirely male family: "My husband and sons are earning good money and yet I can't pay up every week—there's always something to pay out of next week's money."

"I've asked my husband to give me more, but he says I shall get less before I get more."

Then comes the crux: "I don't know how much he earns. I don't know how much he saves. I just feel I can't carry on any longer. I've even thought of working my passage to Australia, to leave them to find out the cost of living."

Those masculine sealed lips... They are a "perk" long treasured by the lords of creation. A time-honoured perk, but not wife-honoured.

For what happens under this regime of the "secret income"? Mrs. Y is faced with a Chancellor of the Exchequer even more tight-lipped than the hero of Budget Day.

## MUM IS THE WORD

That Chancellor won't speak beforehand. But the domestic one won't speak at all.

Come to think of it, a statesman who adopted Mrs. Y's methods would get short shrift. Fancy presenting the Budget without knowing the Estimates?

Yet that is something like Mrs. Y's predicament. She knows the cost of living, but not the family income. He knows the income, but not what it's got to cover. It's a case of the ignorant leading the blinkered.

Any suggestions? Here are two. First, for couples like the Ys, whose silver wedding is in sight.

## PARTNERSHIP

We can't expect all secretive husbands to reverse the habits of a married lifetime. If they insist on remaining deists, at least let us have benevolent deists. But why not have a shot at partnership—after all?

For the newly-wed, I urge shared knowledge from the start. But with the proviso that the wife remembers the "strings" attached.

They are three: (1) Not to lash out when her claim to be a "good manager" is queried; (2) To be discreet, treating her knowledge as a "family affair"; (3) Never to argue, to use her knowledge against him.

But what is not the end of Mrs. Y's worries. Her socks are missing. Her shoes are worn. Her house is a mess. Her husband is a mystery.

The Big Twelve's Spring, Summer Collections Are To Open Soon

## Cocktail Party At Lord Mayor's House

London. THE Incorporated Society of London Fashion Designers, London's "Big Twelve," are to give a cocktail party for foreign buyers at the Mansion House, home of the Lord Mayor of London, on January 28.

The party is being arranged in connection with the three-day openings of the Big Twelve's spring and summer fashion collections on January 27, 28 and 29.

It is believed to be the first time that the Mansion House, stronghold of the city of London, has been opened to a non-city organisation.

The Lord Mayor, Mr. Seymour Howard, in full regalia, will receive the guests with the Lady Mayoress, Mrs. Peter Thorneycroft, President of the Board of Trade, and Mrs. Thorneycroft and Lady Patricia Berry, President of the Incorporated Society of London Fashion Designers. The gold plates belonging to the city of London may be on view. Guests will include foreign buyers attending the fashion openings, members of the house and foreign press covering the collections and personal friends of the Mayor and Mayoress.

## START YOUNG

The sure way is to start young. Give him a sense of family responsibility early. Let him into some of the family secrets concerning "seams" and "carpets." "We can't afford that." "We can rise to this."

Take presents. In out-sized family (Lady Parkenham has eight children) we have had to fix a "ceiling" for all presents. The children know that limit. And before they choose any particular present they make sure it doesn't exceed it.

Sounds cold-blooded? Anyway, I hope that when the boys marry their wives won't have to go to Australia—in order to teach them the cost of living! Not that family responsibility always works out as one expects. Today my young son announced: "We shan't have to worry about money now. Mummy, I've just sent for a machine that turns out £1 notes by the thousand. And it only costs 1s. 3d.!"

But £1 is only one side of family responsibility. Children must learn "fair shares" in other directions too.

(London Express Service).

## Velvet For Cocktail



A long, dark velvet dress with a high neckline and long sleeves. The dress is heavily embellished with white flowers and silver paillettes. The shawl is of blue and white tulle. —Agence France-Press.

## Be his Christmas Angel!

Four star-studded PIONEER gifts for the top men on your Christmas list



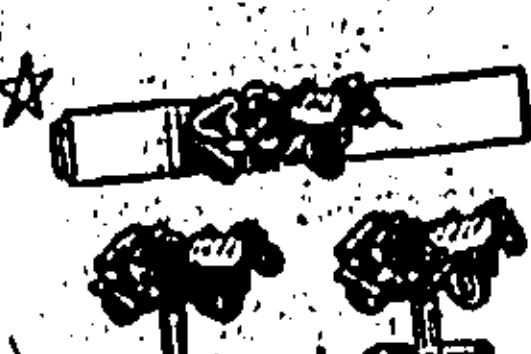
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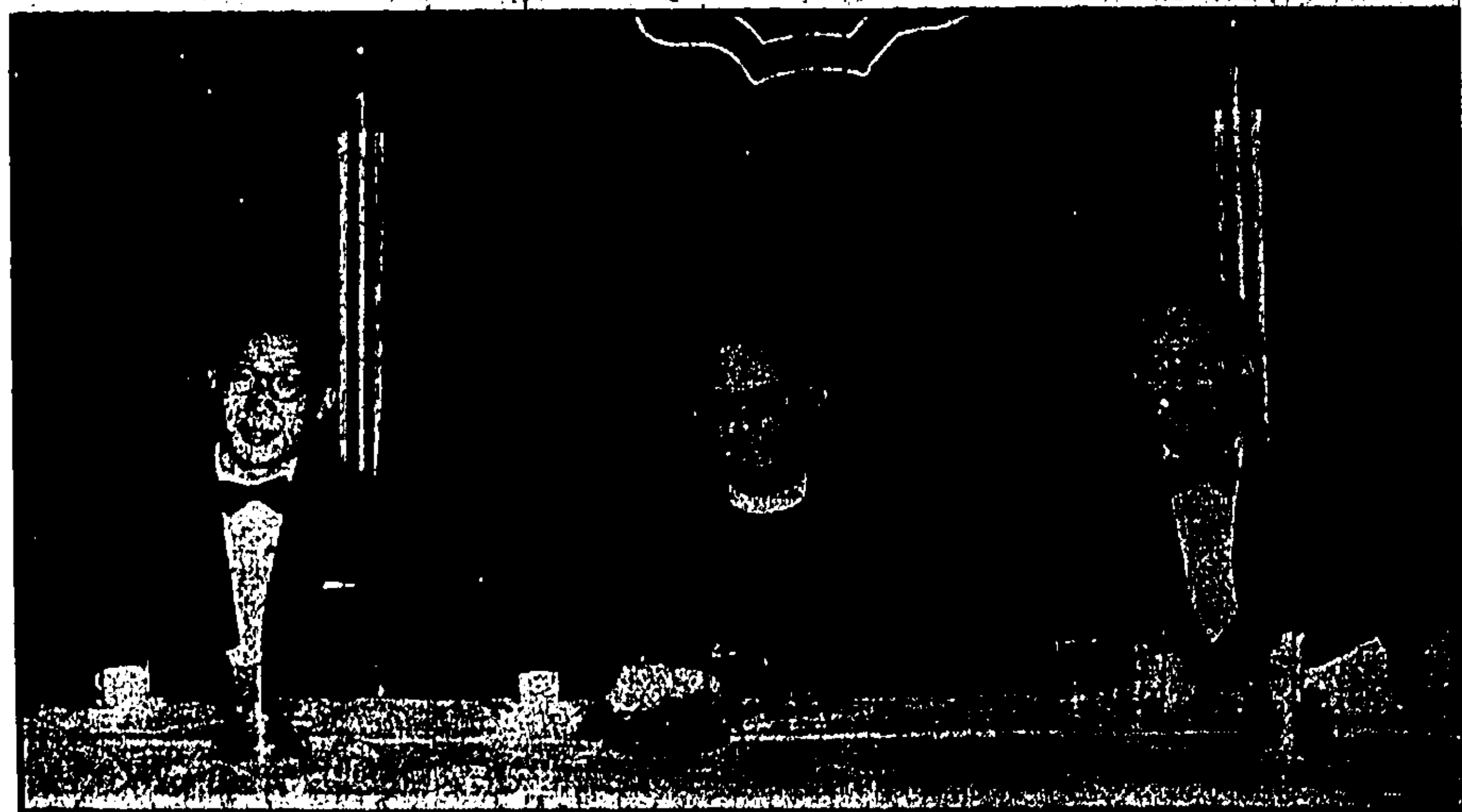
Still want the job? (London Express Service).

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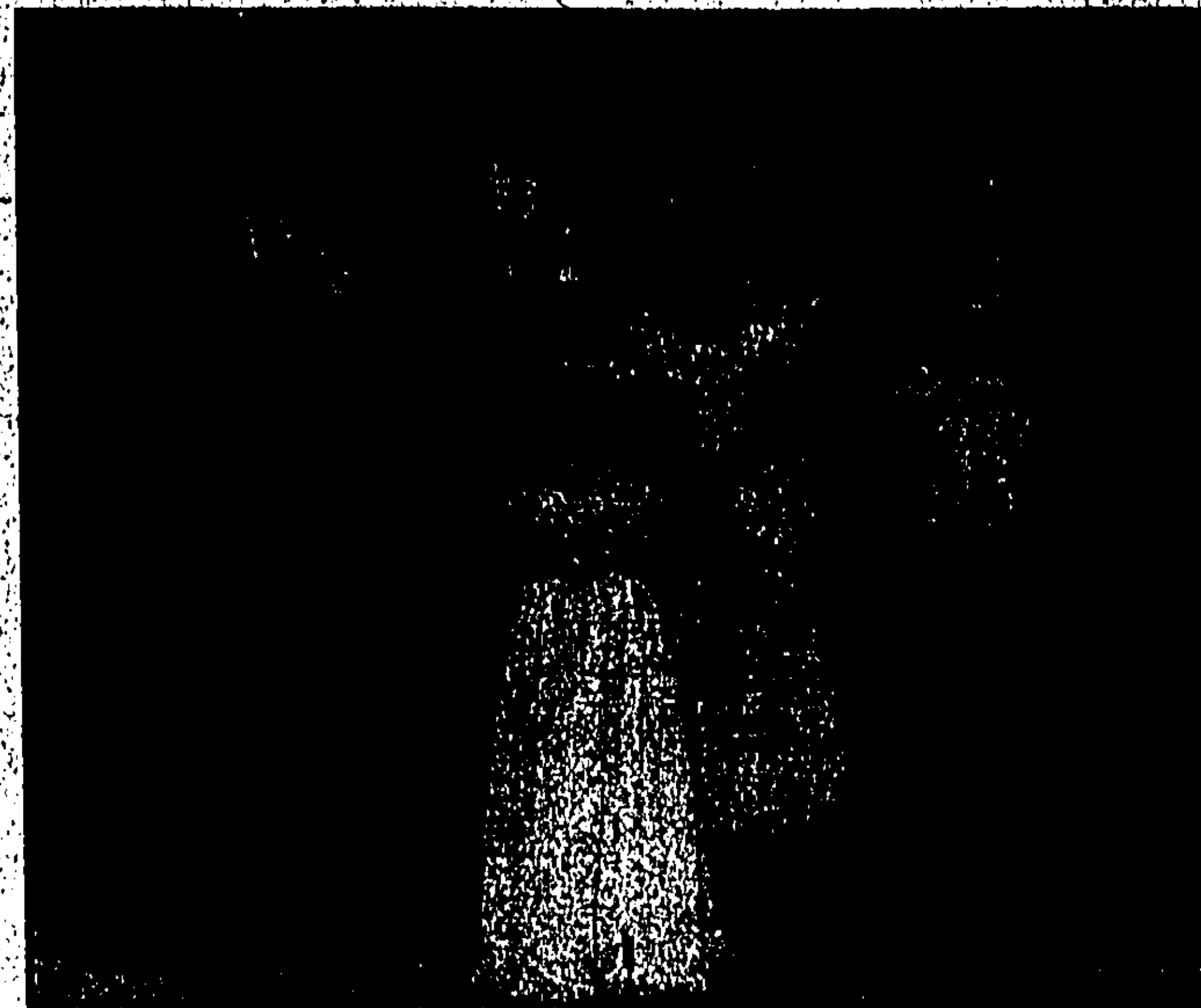
SANTA CLAUS has been a very busy man during the past few days. There were so many Christmas parties which he was expected to attend. These snapshots show him handing gifts to the little ones at (from top left, across) the Chatham Road Battle School, the Australian Association party at the Kowloon Tong Club, the Royal Hongkong Defence Headquarters, and the Y's Men's Club party at the Shun Kwong School. (Staff Photographer)



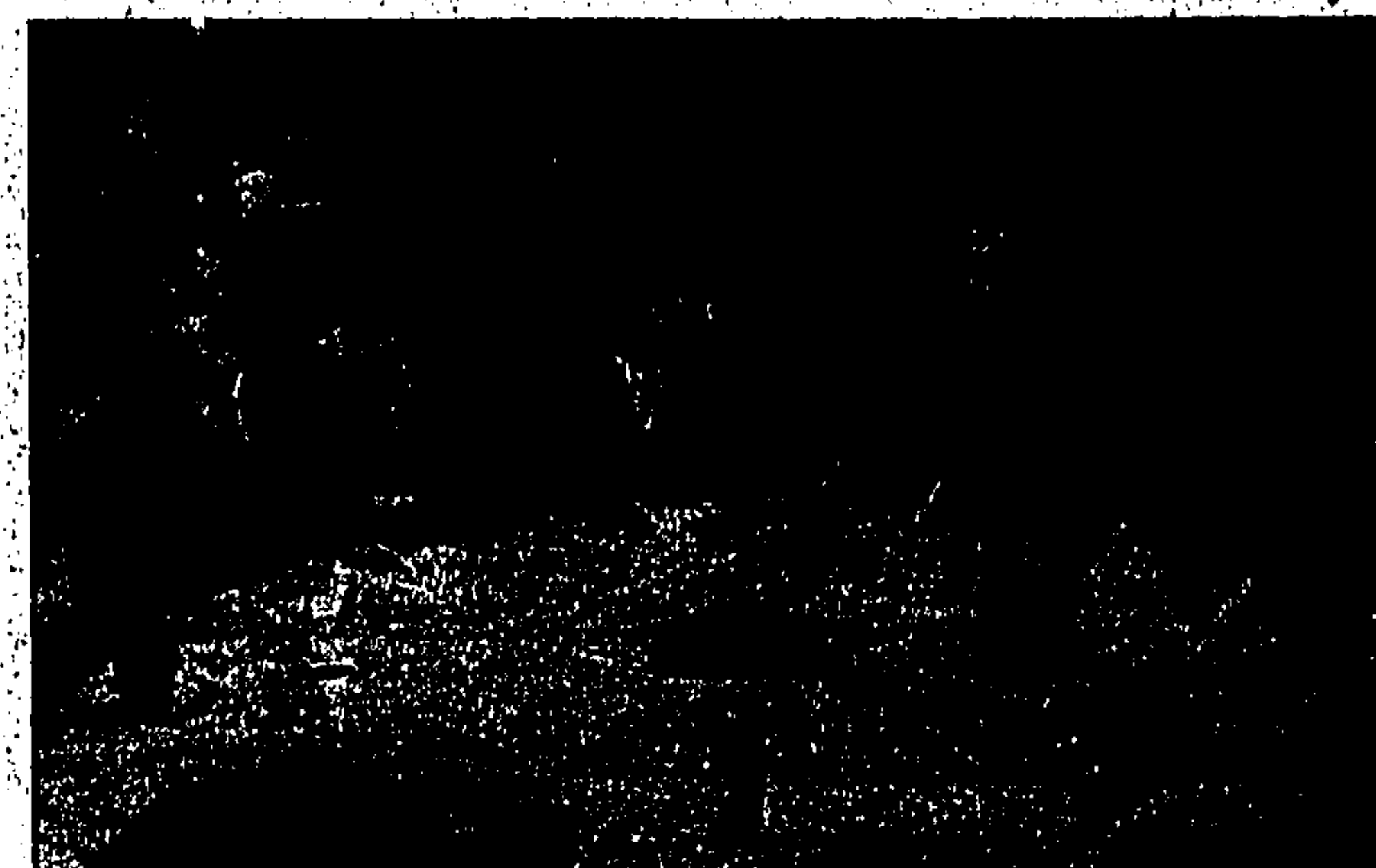
AT the Ricci Hall silver jubilee ball held at the Peninsula Hotel. The Rev. Fr. F. Cronin, Warden of Ricci Hall (centre), is seen with Mr Edmund Lee (left), Chairman of the Students' Association, and Prof. K. E. Priestley. (Staff Photographer)



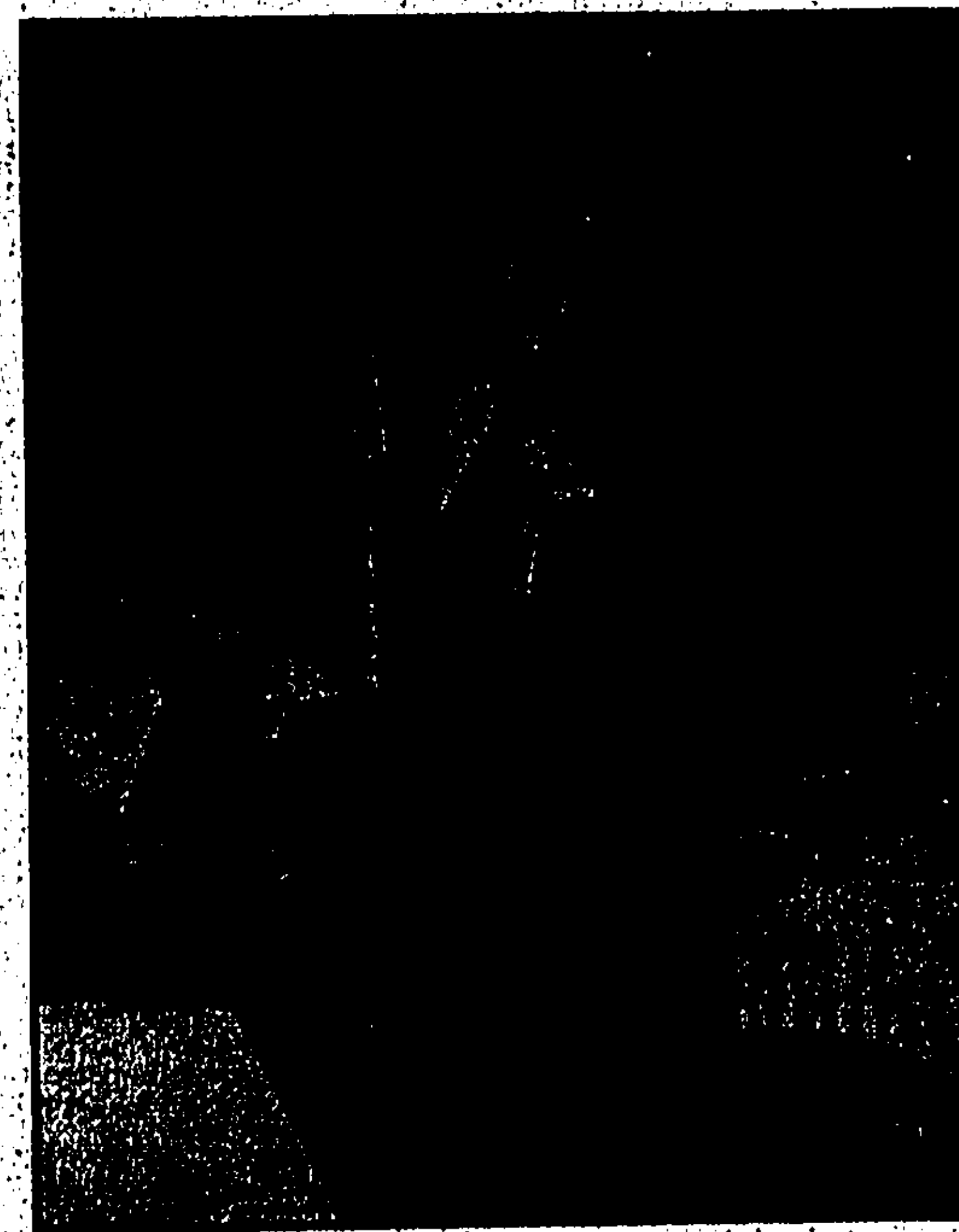
DR Alberto P. Jorge, Macao's representative in the Portuguese National Assembly, snapped at the Club Lusitano where he gave a talk on recent trends and achievements in Portugal. (Staff Photographer)



PICTURE taken at the Union Church last Saturday after the wedding of Mr William McKay Gillies and Miss Ella Gilmour Reid. (Staff Photographer)



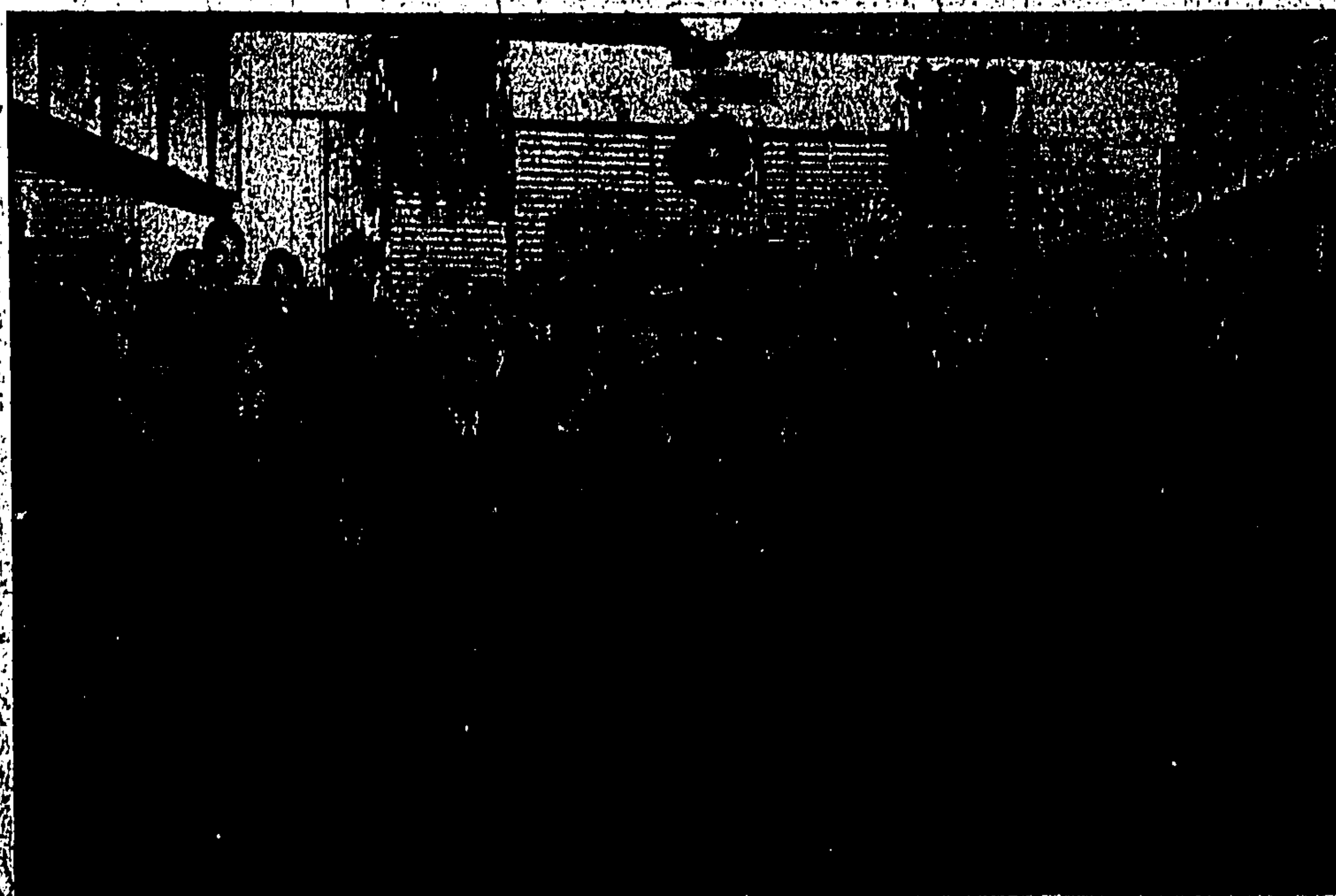
THE staff of the Treasury Department held a Christmas dinner at the Bankers' Club last week. Picture shows (from left) Mr C. Y. So, Mr M. B. Kwong, Mr R. C. Lehman, Accountant General, and Mrs J. F. Chapman. (Staff Photographer)



LEFT: Mr D. Y. Lee, President of the Hong Kong Branch of St John's University Alumni Association, speaking at the dinner dance held last week to mark the diamond jubilee of St John's. (Staff Photographer)

A very Merry Christmas!

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ABOUT 60 young patients at the Tung Wah Eastern Hospital attended a Christmas party given on Wednesday by the British Red Cross Society Diversional Therapy Group. Here a little lad is being shown how to work the toy he found in his gift parcel. (Staff Photographer)



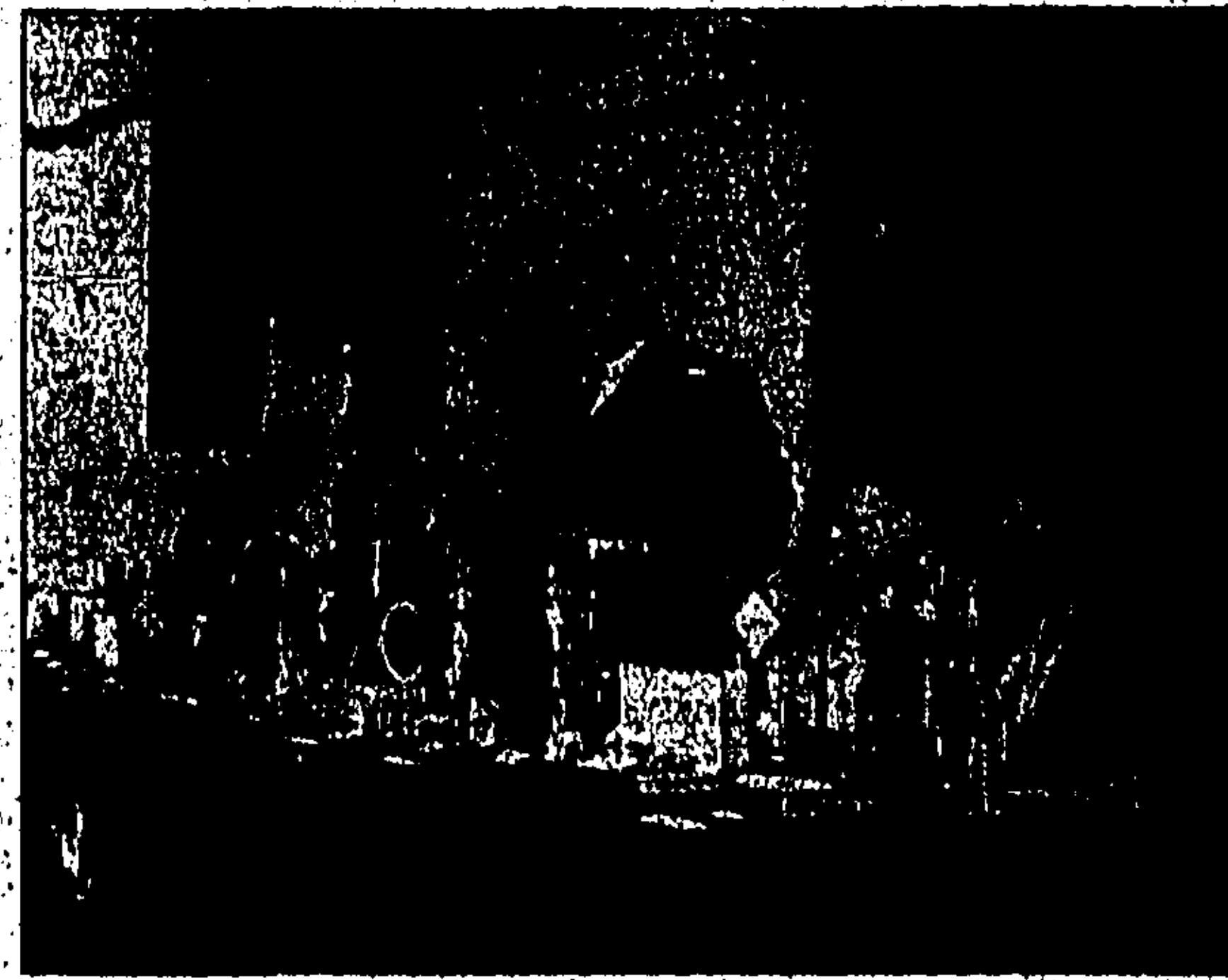
SCENE from the Kowloon Junior School Christmas pantomime, "Aladdin," which was presented at the King George V School last week. (Staff Photographer)



MISS Livia Villarroyes and Mr. Osbando Lim in a Peruvian Inca dance, "Las Virgenes del Sol," during the celebrations in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe by the Asociacon Hispano-Americana of Hongkong.



DR the Hon. S. N. Chau presenting prizes at the annual speech day of King's College, which took place last week. (Staff Photographer)



SPEAKING of the closing day and prize presentation of the Kowloon Bowling Green Club is the President of the Club, Mr W. J. Geall. (Staff Photographer)



ST Stephen's Girls' College won the Hongkong Stage Club trophy when its production of "Everyman" was adjudged first in the senior English section of the Inter-Schools Dramatic Competition. This is the cast. (Staff Photographer)



AT the annual combined ball of the Duchess of Kent Hall and Hornell Hall of Hongkong University, which was held at the Peninsula Hotel on Tuesday. From left: Mr John Choo, Mr G. U. da Roza, Jr., Miss Ida Cheung, Mr K. C. Kwong, Mrs Rose, the Very Rev. A. P. Rose. (Staff Photographer)



PICTURE taken at the christening of Deborah Louise, infant daughter of Mr and Mrs. Kenneth J. Hanmer, which took place at St Andrew's Church last Saturday. (Mainland)



MR Ip Sei-kit, Chairman of the Yau-mat Kaitong Association, is seen flanked on the left by Mr A. J. Schoufen, new Divisional Superintendent of Yau-mat Police Station, and Mr V. M. Morrison. The Association feted Mr Morrison at dinner on his transfer from Yau-mat to Police Headquarters as Welfare Officer. (Staff Photographer)



LEFT: Madame Doria Shafik, well known Egyptian woman leader, photographed at the Peninsula Hotel on Wednesday when she met officials of Hongkong's women's organisations and press representatives. (Staff Photographer)

BELOW: One of the many gay parties at the Peninsula Hotel on Monday evening, when the Casam Club held its first annual ball. (Staff Photographer)

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HONGKONG KOWLOON

## A Christmas Cook's Tour Round Britain

By CYNTHIA ROBB

ASK anyone overseas what Britons have for Christmas dinner and back comes the answer: "roast turkey, plum pudding, mince pies."

That's right. Christmas dinner is a British institution which survives wars and changes of government—and anything you can think of.

But it's only half the answer. Or half the menu.

At Christmas and the New Year, a Briton may be a Scot eating black bun in Edinburgh; a Cornishman savouring Cornish splits in Truro; or a Welshman eating Berrfio cakes in Anglesey. If you want to add variety to your festive fare, come on a cook's tour round Britain.

### Berkshire

#### COFFEE CREAM:

1/2 pint milk  
1/2 pint cream or evaporated milk  
sugar to taste  
1/2 gill strong black coffee  
3/4 oz gelatine  
vanilla

Whip the cream or evaporated milk until very thick. Add milk and gelatine dissolved in coffee. Sweeten to taste and add vanilla. When thickening, turn into mould, and when set, decorate with cherries and angelica.

### Cheshire

**RUM SAUCE:** Christmas pudding. For this you will need: yolks of 2 eggs, 1 gill water, 1 tablespoonful sugar, 1 wineglassful rum, 1 lemon.

Beat up the egg yolks with the sugar. Add the water, strained juice of the lemon and the rum. Stir over a very gentle heat till the sauce thickens. Don't let it boil.

### Cornwall

#### CORNISH SPLITS:

1 lb flour  
1 oz butter  
1/2 oz yeast  
1/2 oz caster sugar  
1/2 pint tepid milk  
teaspoonful of salt

Cream yeast and sugar until liquid, then add milk. Sieve the flour and salt into a basin. Melt the butter. Add milk and salt with the butter to the flour, and mix into a smooth dough. Let the dough rise in a cool place for 45 minutes. Then shape into balls and bake in a floured baking tin in a hot oven for 15 to 20 minutes. Split the balls, cover them with butter and serve hot; or let them cool and serve with jam, cream or golden syrup.

### Derbyshire

#### BAKEWELL TART:

8 oz short crust pastry  
Filling:

2 tablespoonfuls raspberry jam  
2 oz ground almonds  
2 oz caster sugar  
2 oz butter or margarine  
1 egg  
Almond essence

Cream butter and sugar until white and fluffy, stir in egg, add almonds and few drops almond essence and beat well. Line a flat dish with pastry, place a good layer of jam at the bottom, spread mixture lightly on top. Bake in a quick oven for about half an hour.

Two ounces of fine bread-crumbs may be substituted for ground almonds and a little more almond essence added.

### Staffordshire

**SYLLABUB:** Syllabub is the Staffordshire name for a traditional sweet always served during the Christmas festivities. It can be served separately, or as a sauce for Christmas pudding.

If you want to give it zip, take a large bowl and add one pint of cold water and a wineglassful of brandy, sweeten to taste and grate in to it a little nutmeg. Then pour in some fresh warm milk from a jug held very high over the bowl so that a froth is formed, and serve at once.

If you prefer it plain, try this 130-year-old recipe. Mix together three ounces of caster sugar and the juice and grated rind of two lemons, add one pint of cream, whip all together. Put in glasses and stand all night.

### Wales

#### BERRFIO CAKES:

1 oz sugar  
1/2 oz butter  
3 oz flour

Mix well by hand, roll out fairly thin and cut into rounds. In Anglesey, where Berrfio cakes originated, they make each round with a scallop shell. Bake in a moderate oven and sprinkle with sugar.

### Scotland

**BLACK BUN:** Here is Scotland's own festive cake at Hallowmerry (December 31).

Wash and dry two pounds of currants. Stone two pounds of big blue raisins. Blanch and chop half a pound of almonds. Chop half a pound of mixed candied peel. Sift a pound of flour and mix with it four ounces of sugar, half an ounce of ground cloves or cinnamon, half an ounce of ground ginger, a teaspoonful of Jamaica pepper, half a teaspoonful of black pepper, and small teaspoonful of baking-soda. Add to these the prepared fruits. Add just enough butter, milk or beaten egg, with a tablespoonful of brandy, to moisten the mixture.

Make a paste by lightly rubbing half a pound of butter into a pound of flour and mixing in quickly sufficient water to

## Decorating The Children's Party

HOLIDAY time is party time, especially so for children. Of course it does take quite a bit of extra work, time and effort to do up a children's party right, but surely it is worth what is really a labour of love. What takes place in a child's world is part of its foundation for the future and the basis for memories that will be joyous or sad, or even resentful. So let's get busy and plan a party that will add up to good times for everybody young and old.

Invitations should be sent out to little friends and playmates and their parents. Special if only little white correspondence cards (stocked with holiday seals) are used, little red and white candy canes with tags attached to a red and green ribbon would give a very festive sample of good times to come. Put on the old thinking cap and run up a little verse. Easier than you think!

Decorating the living room won't be necessary, of course, because of the little decorations, but a few touches here and there will make the room look festive.

When the tables are set up for refreshments, have ready some pretty favours. Try making little apple Santa's. Wrap a stick of white cotton around a large red apple to make a stem and finish off with a silver star.

stuffed with cotton batting, and tied to a pretty good paint job of Santa's red-cheeked face, with a nice wig and beard of white cotton, the whole thing topped off by a red velvet cap, fur-trimmed. The figure was placed just inside the door, then later moved near the tree.

Near the big tree you might place a smaller tree or two bright with edible decorations such as popcorn balls, candy canes, strings of gumdrops and little cellophane bags filled with brightly-coloured Christmas candy and nuts. Place these fairly low and attach them loosely so that even the littlest guest can have the fun of detaching the goodies from the tree. And treat the big tree to some extra bright touches for the guests, including brightly-coloured toys or other little things that can be taken right off the tree and awarded as prizes, without detracting from the main tree decorations.

When the tables are set up for refreshments, have ready some pretty favours. Try making little apple Santa's. Wrap a stick of white cotton around a large red apple to make a stem and finish off with a silver star.



make a stiff dough. Roll out thinly. Grease a large cake-tin and line it evenly with the paste, retaining enough to cover the top. Trim the edges, put the mixture in, and make the surface flat and smooth. Moisten the edges of the pastry with cold water and flatten on the round top. Make all secure and neat. Take a skewer and make four holes right down to the bottom of the cake. Prick all over with a fork, brush with beaten egg, and bake in a moderate oven for about four hours.

**SHORTBREAD** is another traditional Scottish cake. There are many recipes, but this is a typical one.

1 lb flour  
1/2 lb butter or margarine  
1/4 lb sugar (preferably caster)

Knead butter and sugar or beat them to a cream; work in flour gradually, adding a squeeze of lemon juice. When all the flour is smoothly worked in, press the dough out into a round about 1/2 inch thick; or press out and cut into rounds or oblongs. Prick all over with a fork and bake in a slow oven till pale golden brown. Shortbread may be cut while hot or broken later.

## Ingenious Gift Wrapping Ideas

By ELEANOR ROSS

IT takes time, it takes ingenuity, plus plenty of effort and bright ideas, for pretty gift wrapping. But for so many of us, it is one of the great joys of the happy season, and one we would not willingly forgo.

To the recipient, the beautiful wrapping is part of the gift itself, for it is a token of love and affection. Here are some wrapping ideas that you may find interesting.

### COLOURFUL SEQUINS

All through the year, we collect hatboxes, for we've found they make grand containers for gifts, and lend themselves to all sorts of decoration. So if you have an old square hatbox with black paper, two with silver or red, the lid with another colour. Cut out Christmas ball shapes from coloured paper and glue these to sides. Above each ball, punch a hole. Cut several yards lengths, tape a yarn end inside each of the holes, the end of each ends in a bow on top of hatbox, so that box is opened by just undoing yarn bow.

For exciting effects, use sequins, shiny as can be. Apply a strip of transparent tape, sticky side up, down the length of the box, and across, too. If you wish, fasten the tape firmly underneath with short strips of the stuff. Next, add the

sequins along the sticky side of the tape. You'll be pleased and amazed how easily they adhere to the tape. Try using sequins of various colours to get a lovely, shimmering effect.

Once you let your imagination go, you'll be able to think of all sorts of decorations along these lines. Absorbent cotton gives a snowy look to the tape; dried barley flakes give the look of Christmas greens!

Coloured toothpicks, pasted in pretty designs, and cutout letters and pictures from magazines can all be pressed into service.

For instance, line up coloured toothpicks crossways along the length of a green package and run a strip of matching green tape down the centre of them. Coloured fountain straws, preferably the transparent variety, look pretty when placed under holiday tapes on gift packages.

### WHITE AND GOLD

Moving into the realm of the elegantly wrapped package, we find that white and gold are always smart and lovely. Wrap box in white suede paper. Loop glittering ribbons around two corners and fasten with tape. To top of box, glue a gold tinsel rosette and a gold Christmas tree ornament. Gumdrops can be glued on to hold ornament if it seems shaky.

For a man's gift, wrap box in brown suede paper; glue a gold tinsel rosette, with fine band of gold tinsel ribbon, along length with gold tinsel ribbon. Decorate with small gilded pine cones.

## Now About Money Gifts

THERE'S no need to be coy about it—the best gift for many people is money.

While it is an impersonal gift, so to speak, it can be beautiful, graceful and dramatized in diverse ways.

First of all, the bills should be built-in.

### FOR A MAN

For a man, it is a nice idea to include a silver money clip with a gold or tinsel ribbon. If it is a young college man, will hold the money gift in a good money clip. One of those small metal money clips, complete with lock and key, will hold the money gift in a good money clip.

She'll feel very important when it is used later for private treasures to be kept under lock and key.

For the college girl or the young careerist, there are several ways of making the welcome cash a charming gift. Here again, a pretty party bag, or a party carry-all, is nice enough in itself, but even better when its fitting includes a bill.

Glamorous garters, with a bill tucked into bow or ornament, is another sure-fire success. We've found, as is a little lace, white, or gold, or red, gay with trimmings of gold tinsel ribbon, tinsel, tinsel, and tinsel, tied with tinsel.

### HANDSOME COSSAGE

For the young man, there's no better gift than a handsome cossage. We've found, as is a little lace, white, or gold, or red, gay with trimmings of gold tinsel ribbon, tinsel, tinsel, and tinsel, tied with tinsel.

## THAT HOLIDAY HANGOVER

By W. W. BAUER, M.D.

MY research staff, which is supposed to come up with ideas, suggestions and little helps to keep this column from going dry, has been unable to find anything about holiday fatigue. No statistics. No research. Just the helpful note: "You know all about holiday fatigue."

Maybe I do, at that. And so do you.

For at least six weeks, now, Christmas preparations have been going on. You have been racking your brains about what to get Aunt Clothilde, who has everything and is interested in nothing, but would be offended if you forgot her. The shopping crowds have been growing denser and less and less imbued with that Christmas spirit. The salespeople have been growing more and more surly, or can it be that you have been becoming increasingly difficult? The more you shop, the more your temper shortens and your shopping list doesn't.

The children have been at you for weeks, about when are we going to buy the tree, or when are we going to set it up? When is Grandma coming? Can I go to Bill's Christmas Eve? Come in my room while I show you what I bought Daddy (or Mom). I've run out of money and I've still got presents to buy.

### Happens Every Year

Then there's the Christmas card list. Shall we continue to send cards to the Doaks—they haven't sent to us for three years now. But if we don't and they hear we never answered the personal note that was on the Wumpkins' card last year, and we must write a special greeting on theirs this year. Will we have enough cards, and shall we send them unsent? Shall we go to Bill's Christmas Eve? Come in my room while I show you what I bought Daddy (or Mom). I've run out of money and I've still got presents to buy.

The tree base got misplaced, and it took two whole evenings

to find it. The tree lights blew the fuses, and the outside lights wouldn't stay on the evergreens. You ran out of gift wrappings, or sealed up a package without the card inside, or wrapped two packages so much alike you couldn't tell which went to Uncle Pete and which to Cousin Margery, and had to undo them again and look inside—only to find that your guess would have been right if you had dared rely on it.

On the last day of school, little Mary came home from the entertainment wearing the wrong slippers and Jimmy cried because one of the big boys took his souvenir away from him.

All in all, it's been a merry whirl, up to now. At last, on Christmas Eve, you sink into your favourite chair, stretch your legs out in front of you, and breathe a deep sigh. Everything is ready.

### Relax on Noel

But tomorrow is Christmas—and what a day that will be. Excitement and fatigue will make the children impossible. You have invited too many guests for dinner. You hardly see how you can make the grade.

A tense, excited holiday is a problem indeed. But a little judicious management may take some of the edge off the confusion. The kids will get up early to open presents—you can't stop them. But you don't have to complicate matters by insisting on normal routines. This can be a day when things go along any old way, except that mother will need help with dinner preparations. This is a day to take it easy, avoid pressures and excitement, look the other way when there are minor irritations. Try to get small children to nap or rest in the afternoon.

Eat lightly, even of the magnificent Christmas dinner. Quietly, by spirit, avoid much of the sweets and candy, to reappear at a later date, when it will not add to an already abnormal diet, and when there is less excitement. If calm prevails, fatigue is minimized, and appetites are curbed; it is not necessary for the whole family to be sick on the day after Christmas.

## The SANTA CLAUS MYTH

By Garry C. Myers, Ph.D.

SHOULD we encourage the young child to believe in Santa Claus?

Of course, we should.

Santa Claus is a deep-seated figure in Western culture. The imagination of the child under six takes to old St Nick very naturally. Santa is the king of his fairland. And no matter how matter-of-fact we unimaginative adults may be, the young child, not unduly hampered by older persons, believes in fairyland, in dwarfs and gnomes and other creatures he creates himself.

### Encourage Imagination

Over the years I have written this column, I've urged parents to fill the mind of the preschool child with yarns of fancy and to encourage him to weave such yarns out of his own head. We did this with our own three children, and they have done so with our thirteen grandchildren. As a rule, each of these children has begun questioning the Santa myth around the age of five or six. When he looked up at his parent, and asked if Santa Claus was a real person, he was calmly answered, "No, but we have been playing that he is." Then we went on playing Santa Claus as long as he wished thereafter. Each older child, on knowing disillusion was always eager to keep the doubt-busting answer, "No, but we have been playing that he is." Then we went on playing Santa Claus as long as he wished thereafter. Each older child, on knowing disillusion was always eager to keep the doubt-busting answer, "No, but we have been playing that he is." Then we went on playing Santa Claus as long as he wished thereafter.

### Commercial Features

Unfortunately, commercial pressures have tried to impose Santa Claus on many children over five or six. Even a few teachers' tales, to prepare the child, before the age of four, five or six, gradually to discover that Christmas gifts come from persons, instead of Santa Claus, is to have a few little children who are disappointed when Santa Claus does not come.

### The Non-question

It is a common question, "Should we encourage the young child to believe in Santa Claus?"

and sisters. They had very strong convictions about the matter. But in my very early years, I believed in Santa Claus, anyway. Nobody could keep me from building him in my imagination, since I wanted to share the joys of my playmates.

Those who condemn Santa Claus argue that the child, on becoming disillusioned, will feel he has been deceived. There are some cases when parents and teachers try to force Santa Claus on the child long after his experience and development make him unable to accept Santa Claus completely.

### The Teacher's Problem

Of course, the teacher has a big problem. She would do well to omit Santa Claus suggestions about the kindergarten age. If a child asked her if Santa Claus is real, she might be tactful to suggest to the child that he ask his parents about the matter. A few years after each of our own children was disillusioned, we asked each in turn if he felt he had harmed him by having a Santa Claus. Each child assured us we had not and added that his own children would have Santa Claus by and by as he had, and that is, exactly what happened as it turned out.

Unfortunately, commercial pressures have tried to impose Santa Claus on many children over five or six. Even a few teachers' tales, to prepare the child, before the age of four, five or six, gradually to discover that Christmas gifts come from persons, instead of Santa Claus, is to have a few little children who are disappointed when Santa Claus does not come.

















## YE LUCK OF YE TOSS

A lot will no doubt be heard before the present Test series in Australia is finished of "the luck of the toss". In view of Len Hutton's almost invariable ill-luck, it is indeed fortunate for England that the first of the 1,744 laws of cricket has been eliminated.

This earliest known publication of the laws comprised a schedule, the first paragraph of which read:

"Ye pitching of ye first wicket is to be determined by ye cast of a piece of money". And later in the schedule comes: "When ye wickets are both pitched and all ye cricketers cut, ye party that wins the toss up may order which side shall go in first at his option."

### SPEEDING UP

Don Cockell aims to speed up his world heavyweight title bid by a bit, to be trained by Franz Stampfl, the Austrian, who trained him, Roger Bannister to the four-minute mile.

According to interpretations of these paragraphs, the advantage of winning the toss meant that a strong bowling side would order the wicket to be pitched on a bad piece of ground and put their opponents in.

Since there seems to be a general move in cricket circles up and down the United Kingdom to improve the game and increase public interest, the possibilities of a revival of this particular paragraph of the 1,744 rules would certainly be wide and most intriguing, although groundsman may not relish the prospect of responsibility being shifted from captains and umpires to themselves. And the 1,744 laws certainly did seem to point a moral in those days they did not provide for the players wearing pads, and the operation of the l.b.w. did not exist!



## International Softball Series Starts On Boxing Day

No League softball games will be played during the holidays. Instead, two international softball matches will take their place. On Boxing Day, Portugal Ladies will meet China Ladies at 1.30 p.m. in the first of a three-game series and Pakistan will cross bats with the Philippines at 3.00 p.m. in the preliminary knockout round for the Men's International title.

The Portugal Ladies team is composed of players selected from Wahoons "A" and "B" and Colleens "A". Manager E. H. Carvalho has announced that the following have been selected for the game: Teresa Campos, Nana Carvalho, Alexandrina Mendonca, Therese Noronha, Sheila Bernal-Silva, Yolanda Silva, Irene Starkey, from Wahoons "A", Evelyn Alonco, Angela D'Aquino, Sheila Colloco, Myra Cruz, Valerie Fernandez, Therese Roza-Pereira from Wahoons "B" and Mira D'Almeida, Dorothy Mendoza, Diana Pires and Benita Remedios from Colleens "A".

They are all heavy sluggers and veteran players forming a very strong team and are favoured to clinch the title once again.

The China Ladies' team will be managed by Miss Connie Lai and the coaches are Messrs Willie Woo and Bob Law. The players selected are Goretai Chai, Y. C. Kwai, L. K. Koo, C. Y. Kwong, Margaret Lam, Helen Leung, Madeline Gosling, from South China AA, Pearl Chai, Amy Chen, S. M. Chu, Stella Pih, L. S. Yim from Pandarettes, L. W. Chan, M. K. Chan, T. Y. Chan, W. Y. Loui, Olive Yuen from Chinese Athletic Association and Sally Sun from Colleens "A".

These ladies have long years of experience and good hitting power and are expected to give the title-holders a real challenge.

The Pakistan men's team is quite strong and comes largely from St. Joseph's team, the Pennant holders in the Senior "A" League. The others are from Braves, the young Comets and Blackhawks.

Their tentative line-up, as revealed by manager A. J. Hussain, is: A. R. Salleh, P.

## Chataway May Run In South Africa

Chris Chataway, copper-haired Comet of Britain's running tracks, is likely to race in South Africa in January.

A jubilee athletic meeting is to be staged in Johannesburg and the South African athletic authorities have been granted permission to invite Chataway.

The British Olympic runner said he hoped it would be possible for him to accept. He would be delighted to compete. (London Express Service).

(Sain's): O. K. Dallah, (Griffins): A. Ditta, (Sain's): Sherry Bucks, (Sain's): Benny Omar, (Sain's): H. "Tiger" Hussain, (Braves): A. Rakha, (Braves): A. G. Ismail, (Sain's): A. J. Hussain, (Sain's): and reserves Gary and Reggie Hamet, Malik Orman, S. Kadir from Comets, Farid Khin from Blackhawks and A. R. Rakka. They should be able to eliminate the young but determined Filipinos to go into the semi-final round.

The Philippines team seems to be the youngest in age of all teams. Their selections are from Saints, Delaware, Dukes, P. I. Dodgers and University. They are known as tough fighters despite their smaller figure and relatively fewer years of experience.

Last year they battled the champion China team to a very close finish in the preliminary round and they may upset the more favoured Pakistanis. Their roster of players has been announced but positions are unrevealed.

Named to the team are David Vieira (HKU), Tonkens Tavares, Blas Despa, Alex Eusebio, Fred Diesta, Fernando Gutierrez, Sonny Azevedo (Delaware), Fernando Diesta, Jr. (PID), Eddy Cruz (PID), Reynaldo Pacheco (PID), Benny Eusebio (Dukes), Michael Bugo (Dukes), Gerry Morales (Dukes), Cypre Caldas (Dukes) and Onofre Souza (Sain's).

The International Softball Series has created much interest among local fans since 1938 as all the teams are formed from the best players of all nationalities and the games are usually hotly contested.

This year, there are two rival contestants in the Ladies' series, i.e. Portugal and China, and five in the Men's Series—Pakistan, Philippines, USA, Portugal and China. The ladies will play a series of three games and the men a knockout competition.

The semi-finals will be played during the Chinese New Year holidays and the final during the Easter Holidays. China

and Portugal are the strongest of all the entrants and are expected to meet in the final.

Past Winners of the International Series were:

Year	Men	Ladies
1938-39	India	China
1939-40	India	China
1940-41	USA	—
1941-42	G. Britain	—
1942-43	India	Portugal
1943-44	Portugal	Portugal
1944-45	Portugal	Portugal
1945-46	Portugal	Portugal
1946-47	Portugal	China
1947-48	China	Portugal
1948-49	China	Portugal
1949-50	China	Portugal
1950-51	China	Portugal
1951-52	China	Portugal
1952-53	China	Portugal
1953-54	China	Portugal

The League games will resume in the New Year and the present standings in the Leagues are:

Senior "A"	P.	W.	L.	Pts.
St. Joseph's	5	5	0	1000
CAA	5	5	1	833
Pandus "A"	5	4	1	800
Braves	5	3	2	600
Warriors	6	1	6	167
U. S. Navy	6	1	5	167
Delaware	5	5	0	1000

Senior "B"	P.	W.	L.	Pts.
Americans	7	0	1	857
Blackhawks "A"	7	0	1	857
Pandus "B"	0	3	3	500
Overseas "B"	7	2	6	250
HKU	7	0	7	000

Junior "Blue"	P.	W.	L.	Pts.
Comets	8	7	1	875
Dukes	7	0	1	857
Pandus Jr.	6	4	2	687
Wah Yung	5	3	2	600
Overseas "B"	6	1	7	125
25 Pounders	10	1	9	100

Junior "Gold"	P.	W.	L.	Pts.
Blackhawks "B"	8	0	0	1000
P. I. Dodgers	8	0	0	1000
CAA Jr.	5	3	2	600
SCAA	7	2	5	283
Lynxes	5	1	4	200
Seventeeners	6	0	0	000

Ladies' League

Ladies' League	P.	W.	L.	Pts.
Wahoons "A"	7	7	0	1000
Wahoons "B"	6	0	2	750
Colleens "A"	7	5	2	714
SCAA	9	0	3	687
Pandus	7	3	4	429
CAA	7	1	6	143
Overseas	7	1	6	143
Colleens "B"	8	1	7	125

### SATURDAY SOCCER SPOT

## NOW A TOUR OF SOUTH AMERICA MAY COMPLICATE MATTERS

By I. M. MacTAVISH

It seems inevitable that our football affairs must be tinged with controversy; with argument and counter-argument; with proposal and counter-proposal.

For some weeks it has been well known in local circles that the Hongkong Football Association was giving most active consideration to the possibility of sending a representative side to Europe in the months immediately following the end of the current season.

The project has been openly discussed, considered and publicised. There are those who are rightly concerned about the financial aspects of such an undertaking and no matter how optimistically one views it there are undoubtedly many problems involved.

Much preparatory work has already been done and it would seem that there is a reasonable prospect of the scheme coming to healthy and beneficial fruition.

Now, however, comes the news that other interests in the Colony are negotiating for a tour of South America, and according to the information available in soccer circles, the itinerary of this second project coincides with that of the HKFA's proposed tour of Europe.

Such a situation is fraught with complications. Neither Europe nor South America has any desire to see anything but the very best Hongkong side in action and it is obvious that the star players cannot be in two places at the same time.

While one can understand—or at least guess at—the underlying implications of the situation it is difficult to see what football progress can be made out of it. This constant tug-of-war benefits the game little and must cause the players many secret headaches.

However there is one aspect of the present position that should not be overlooked... that is its relation to the Olympic Games of 1956. It is generally accepted that one of the aims of the Hongkong Football Association is to be represented, if possible, at these Games, and it has often been said in conversation that this projected tour in Europe was being regarded in the light of a pre-Games preparation during which our players could get some glimpse of the standard of opposition they might be expected to meet in Melbourne in 1956.

Such an underlying theme would make the European tour worthwhile and it would be a great pity indeed if it had to be sacrificed because of diverging policies in the Colony... and I say that with a full appreciation that the question of eligibility to compete in the Olympic Games may also be a complicated one.

### WORTH READING

In recent times there has been a great deal of discussion about the standard of refereeing in the Colony Leagues.

The referee will always be a target for the critics, whoever they may be, but to get a new slant on the whole aspect of the man with the whistle I cannot do better than commend to the attention of referees, players, officials, spectators and critics a new book which has just become available in the Colony. It is "Refereeing Round the World" by Arthur E. Ellis and is a book that is well worth reading by anyone who is in any way

however remotely—connected with the game.

It is written in simple straightforward language and paints the referee and his job in a new setting. Mr. Ellis gained international command of the game—of the famous—or rather infamous—World Cup Match between Hungary and Brazil in Switzerland earlier this year... but his story is essentially a simple one.

As is to be expected, such a book contains many stories of football the world over, but the forces may find that Mr. Ellis' review of the goal by Arsenal to win the FA Cup in 1952 is an item of special academic interest for it spotlights the vital importance of intimate knowledge and split second decision. In this case it needed two such decisions almost simultaneously.

First Mr. Ellis had to decide if a player was sufficiently badly injured to warrant play being stopped, and immediately afterwards he had to decide if a player moving at top speed was on or off side when the ball was last played.

Mr. Ellis decided not to stop play, and he also decided that the moving player was outside, and in the ensuing move Newcastle got the goal that won the Cup.

The national press supported Mr. Ellis in both decisions and high-ranking officials later stated that they considered that in these few flashing seconds he had given what was probably the finest display of "instinctive intelligence in interpreting the rules of the game" that had been witnessed for many a long day.

### POTTED ADVICE

Towards the end of his book, and under a chapter heading "It's No Sinecure", Mr. Ellis offers encouragement to aspiring officials and ends it with the following potted advice to those who hope to get to the top.

- 1.—Start young and don't get discouraged.
- 2.—Progress slowly and learn with each step.
- 3.—Remember ability to administer the laws is just as important as knowledge of the laws.
- 4.—You are promoted on your ability as a referee, not on your ability as a linesman.
- 5.—Never refuse even the most minor game... refereeing small games proves your love of the game and that is what is wanted.
- 6.—Join the local referees' association. You will get a lot of help there and get a chance to join in healthy discussions.

7.—Make sure everyone knows who is boss when you go on to the field.

8.—But don't be officious or theatrical. A good referee is the one who goes quietly about his job and keeps the game under control without ever being noticed.

9.—Don't play solos on your whistle. People pay to watch football, not to hear a referee blowing a whistle.

10.—Never try to show players up.

11.—Look smart and keep fit.

12.—Never break your word—if you threaten anything, do it.

13.—Carry a spare whistle, watch and pencil.

14.—Never forget there is always something to learn.

15.—Never, never, never get discouraged.

These are wise words... but this is a grand book all through... I am sure football folks will enjoy it as much as I did.

### HOLIDAY MATCHES

There is an interesting schedule of games over the holiday period and with the weather a little warmer again there are sure to be big crowds to see some of them. The full programme is as follows:

#### T. DAY

CAA vs. Sing Tao at Boundary Street, 4 p.m.  
St. Joseph's vs. South China at Club Stadium, 4 p.m.

#### TOMORROW

Eastern vs. RAF at Sookun-poo, 4 p.m.  
Kwong Wah vs. Navy at Club Stadium, 4 p.m.  
Kitcher vs. Army at Caroline Hill, 4 p.m.

#### MONDAY

International Cup—1st Round  
Scotland vs. England at Club Stadium, 2.30 p.m.  
Portugal vs. China at Club Stadium, 4.00 p.m.  
(Both games of 80 mins. duration—No Extra time.)

The crowd will be at the Club Stadium this afternoon to see St. Joseph's conquerors of Kwong Wah, KMB and Army, clash with South China.

Once again much depends on whether or not St. Joseph's have their stars from Macao in the line-up. If they have this can be a grand tussle, but without them the team is unlikely to present any major threat to the boys from Caroline Hill.

Whatever the line-up, I feel that South China have the power and are apt to see them through... especially if Tong Sheung is back in the team.

The Saints are dangerous opponents and this game has the right amount of "it" about it to bring out the crowd.

Last week's heavy defeat of the Army has taken some of the gloss but there is no importance out of the holiday meeting with Kitcher tomorrow. Kitcher has separately in need of a morale boost in their position and also have a few players who are away.

This is a good game and should be well attended.

## THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB SIXTH RACE MEETING

Monday 27th December 1954 & Saturday 1st January 1955  
(To be held under the Rules of the Hong Kong Jockey Club)

THE PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF 18 RACES.

The First Race will be run at 12 o'clock NOON and the First Race run at 12.30 p.m. on both days.

The Tiffin interval is after the Third Race (1.30 p.m.) on both days.

The Secretary's Office at Alexandra House will close at 10.30 a.m. on both days.

### MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

NO PERSON WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED.

All persons MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the meeting.

Admission charges at \$10.00 each per day are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him.

Tiffins will be obtainable at the Club House if ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 72811).

NO CHILDREN will be admitted to the Club's premises during the Meeting. For this purpose a Child is a person under the age of seventeen years, Western Standard.

### PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission will be \$3.00 each per day payable at the Gate.

Any person leaving the Enclosure will be required to pay the requisite fee of \$3.00 in order to gain re-admission.

MEALS and REFRESHMENTS will be obtainable in the RESTAURANT.

### SERVANTS

Servants must remain in their employer's boxes except for passing through on their duties. They may on no account use the Betting Booths in the Members' Betting Hall.

### CASH SWEEPS

Through Cash Sweep Tickets at \$18.00 each per day and \$36.00 for both days may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices during normal office hours until 10.30 a.m. on the first day.

Particular numbers within the series 1 to 4,000 may be reserved for all race meetings as Through Tickets. Such tickets will be issued consecutively only and the right is reserved by the Stewards to cancel any reservation for Through Tickets for a particular Meeting if it is found that sales may not reach the number reserved in the series 1 to 4,000.

In the case of two-day Race Meetings, Through Tickets may be purchased for each day of the Meeting provided that the second day is on a date not less than five days after the first day. In all other cases Through Tickets will only be sold for the whole Meeting.

Tickets reserved and available but not paid for by 10.00 a.m. on Friday, 24th December, 1954, will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future Meetings.

Tickets over 4,000 will also be issued consecutively but particular numbers cannot be reserved as Through Tickets.

The reservation of any particular number does not confer on the registered holder any rights whatsoever unless the ticket bearing the appropriate number is issued to and can be produced by the holder.

The Stewards reserve the right to refuse any subscription also the right to remove any name from subscription lists without stating reasons for their action.

Cash Sweep Tickets on the last race of the Meeting at \$2.00 each may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices at Queen's Building, (Chater Road), 5, D'Agallier Street and 382, Nathan Road during normal office hours and until 10.30 a.m. on both days of the Meeting.

### SPECIAL CASH SWEEP

Tickets for the Special Cash Sweep on the Pearce Memorial Cup scheduled to be run on 22nd January, 1955, at \$2.00 each, may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices.

### TOTALISATOR

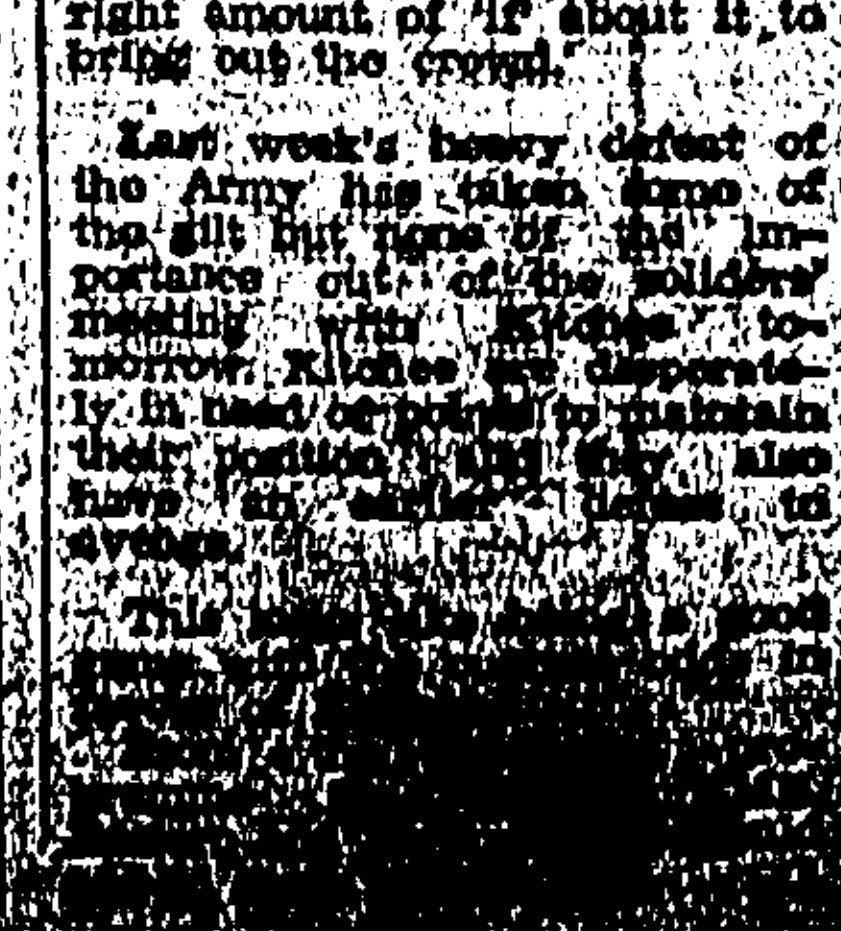
Backers are advised not to destroy or throw away their tickets until after the "all clear" signal has been exhibited.

ALL WINNING TICKETS and TICKETS FOR REFUNDS MUST BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT AT THE RACE COURSE ON THE DAY TO WHICH THEY REFER, NOT LATER THAN ONE HOUR AFTER THE TIME FOR WHICH THE LAST RACE OF THE DAY HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO BE RUN.

PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE MADE ON TORN OR DISFIGURED TICKETS.

Bookmakers, the Tote men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

By Order of the Stewards  
H. MIRA  
Secretary





IT WAS REALLY BOXING DAY IN 1908

# LEGALISED ASSAULT AND BATTERY UNTIL THE POLICE STEPPED IN

By DENNIS HART

Boxing Day. A day of goodwill. The time, in fact, for giving Christmas boxes. December 26, 1908 really was Boxing Day, however, the day Jack Johnson became the world's first coloured Heavyweight Champion.

Boxing? Not in the true sense. The dethronement of reigning title-holder Tommy Burns was legalised assault and battery; legalised, that is, until the 14th round when police invaded the ring to stop the fight.

Grudge fights and ballyhoo are part and parcel of the fight business. But in the battle fought out in the season of goodwill, 1908, every word of the pre-fight spiel came from the depth of two bitter hearts.

## HATE INTO FURY

Publicly fanned hate into fury, it blazed across the world as Johnson chased his quarry over two continents.

The quarry, Burns was an amazing boxer, just topping five and half feet, he looked a middleweight. But for two years he had been world heavyweight champion, and defended the title eight times.

Throughout those years he had been dogged by the shadow of the six-foot Johnson, taunting and baiting.

The slugging match began at their first meeting. In a Californian hotel Burns had just signed to defend his title against Australia's Bill Squires. Johnson snarled in and challenged Burns to a fight, any time, any place.

The Canadian refused, adding an insult. Johnson's happy-go-lucky expression hardened, his voice lost its lazy drawl as he spat out the word "coward". Who was Burns the negro? Burns' action had the stamp of cowardice. Yet the 27-year-old French Canadian was no punk. He did have a phobia about negroes. He didn't think black and white should meet in the ring.

If only he'd let the matter rest there. But to cover up his phobia he went out of his way to insult Johnson.

## AGE-OLD LOGIC

Burns had another reason for avoiding Johnson based on age-old logic—money.

Later he frankly admitted, "I was side-tracking Johnson. I read in him a difficult man to master. I wanted to keep Johnson off as long as I could."

"I had to make money at fighting to live, and champions don't make money. I'd known what it was to starve, and I wasn't going to let it happen again."

Beating Squires, Burns came to England. Johnson followed. Burns met England's burly Gunner Mott and duly knocked him out in ten rounds.

But it was Johnson England wanted to see. The coloured man was getting a raw deal. With traditional love of the underdog, English fans took to him. This, with his wonderful appearance, made him a public hero.

Burns was scorned. He did not consent to fight Johnson—for £6,000. This was an unprecedented purse in England and only made things worse. People said he was deliberately dodging the fight.

Burns was due to appear on music hall—the way many fighters boosted ring earnings. With his popularity at zero it seemed a dismal, possibly dangerous venture. So he called America for 1,000 copies of boxing record books, quoting big American purses, and gave them away.

## SHEWED MOVE

It was a shrewd move. He was forgiven. He fought again in London, then in Dublin, Paris and in Australia. He continued slugging Johnson verbally, but he would not fight him.

Johnson, however, determined to get his man, borrowing £200, he followed Burns to Australia. Public outcry then became so loud that Burns could no longer duck the challenge.

He stuck out for his £6,000. He got it—to his cost. He turned down an alternative offer of £4,000 plus 40 per cent of the takings. Such was the interest that there was a record gate of over £22,000 at the new Rushcutters Bay arena and Burns missed an extra £7,000. Johnson asked for £3,000, was offered £1,000 and took it gladly. He would have fought for nothing.

The fight almost took place, unbidden, two weeks early. Two sparring partners from the rival camps, O'Donnell from Burns' stable and Bryant from Johnson's, fought on a provincial bill. The two world title contestants were present. O'Donnell won. Burns sneered. Johnson, fighting mad, had to be held back.

So the stage was set. The two men had trained harder than ever before. Now they faced each other, personal and racial honour at stake, the eyes of 20,000 Australians on them, the eyes of the world on the result.

Burns, with a moon-shaped head, a tuft of hair which flopped over the middle of his forehead and with his intense eyes, was known as boxing's Napoleon. Despite previous inhibitions, he looked confident. He was odds-on favourite. Betting was 7-4 in the Canadian's favour.

This, however, was because many thought Johnson would throw the fight. Perhaps Burns thought so too.

## WELL HE MIGHT

In the opposite corner Johnson appeared even more confident. He was smiling that so-plesant Johnson smile. Well he might. He outweighed Burns by 102 pounds to 108; every ounce stood for power, ease and grace. He was boxing's black panther and that night he was as alert as a wild animal ready to pounce on its prey.

Napoleon? Johnson, despite a scandal upbringing, had educated himself. He had studied Napoleon, and his fall. "Seconds out the ring," called promoter-referee Hugh McIntosh. This fight was on.

Before Burns had time to think, a Johnson left pierced his guard. It was not a hard blow. But it foretold the course of the contest. Johnson, hitting hard as he pleased, Burns, the human punch bag.

The challenger could have taken the title in two rounds. But having chased his man half way across the world, he wanted his money's worth, to give Burns a boxing lesson he would never forget.

Round after round it went on. Burns to his credit, did not give up. He kept coming in. But his attacks had the desperation of a child beating at a closed door, and the same effect.

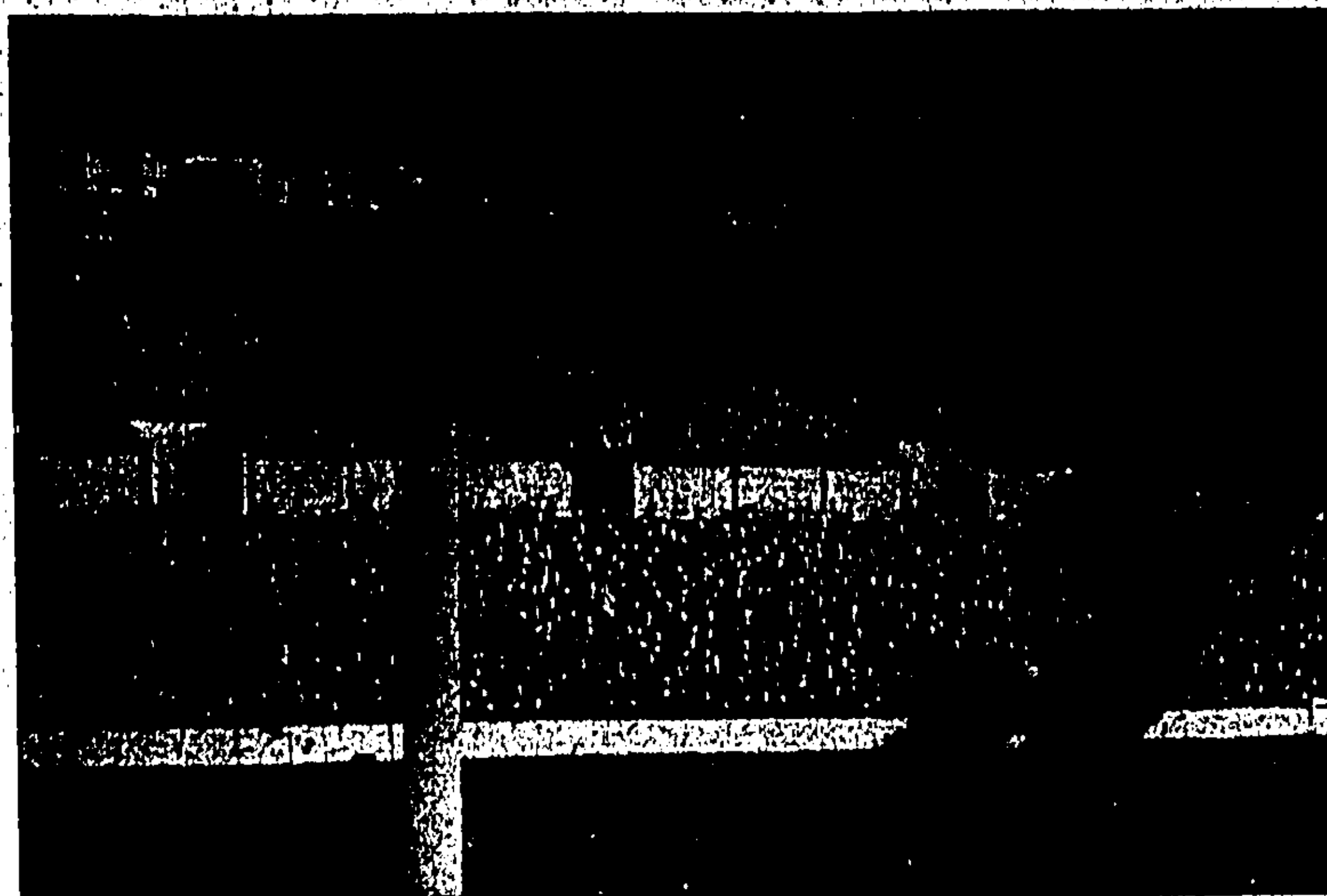
And all the time Johnson goaded him on. "That's not the way, Tahmy," he would jibe. "Hit there, Tahmy," and expose his stomach. Burns would lunge at Johnson's unprotected middle. "That's right, Tahmy," the chuckling Negro would sing out, and rip home a left to Burns' face.

## AIMED TO HUMILIATE

For Johnson was not after mere physical revenge. He aimed to humiliate Burns. Never again must the Canadian say that Jack Johnson had a yellow streak.

Six rounds gone. Burns, his face a shapeless mass of bruised flesh, his body a series of ugly red blotches, was lined up for the 11th. It never came, Johnson saw to that. He nursed his

## EQUALISER FOR THE VILLA



A gallant effort by Reynolds, the 'Spurs' goalie, is of no avail as Aston Villa's centre-forward, Dixon, scores the visitors' first and equalising goal at the match played at White Hart Lane.—Reuterphoto.

## Monday's Chances At The Valley

The Hongkong Jockey Club's Sixth Race Meeting of the season will be spread over two days—Monday, December 27, and Saturday, January 1.

Each day's programme will consist of nine events; the first saddling bell will be rung at noon and the first race will commence promptly at 12.30 p.m.

The tiffin interval will follow on both days after the running of the Third Race (1.30 p.m.), and the first bell after tiffin will be rung at 2.30 p.m.

Here are my estimates of the chances:

### FIRST RACE

Thurley Handicap: One Mile. The opening race on Monday is confined to Class 0 ponies with novice jockeys as riders. In my estimation the result will be decided between Blister Sweet (Mr Robert Luk), Angelle Power (Mr U. Kum-lun), First Lady (Mr Chan Sui-leun) and Thunder Sky (Mr H. W. Mok).

Judging from its last outing when it came in third in the Obelisk Hill Handicap at the 3rd Race Meeting over the two mile post, Blister Sweet has the best chance of scoring a win here with Angelle Power as the main opposition.

I would, however, recommend keeping Thunder Sky in mind as this pony is coming along nicely at morning gallops and may possibly create an upset.

### SECOND RACE

Galway Handicap: From 1½ Mile Post. This sprint event is confined to Class 5 ponies. The following should be prominent: Pot O'Gold (Mr H.K. Chuang), Diana (Mr Wei), Hiram C (Mr Chen Poo) and Highlight (Mr Oliveira).

I do not think we need look further than Pot O'Gold as the

eventual winner. Pot O'Gold has properly tuned up for this meeting and I feel it will have a very good chance of accounting for this race.

Diana is a fast mover and can be depended upon to make a light of it.

Hiram C is fast over this distance and it should certainly be well backed.

Highlight, although given top weight of 159 lbs., is not to be counted out of the race.

### THIRD RACE

Epsom Handicap (First Section): One Mile.

This race will be contested by Class 6 ponies. Comet, ridden by Mr Albert Lam, came second in the Midlothian Handicap over six furlongs at the 4th Race Meeting, carrying 147 lbs. It will be taken out by Mr Oliveira on Monday and with a weight of another 3 lbs added I think it has a good chance of winning.

The strongest opposition will come from Armand (Mr Phi), although unplaced the last time out.

Then there is How Do I Know (Mr H. C. Woo) to be considered as it is good over this distance.

Velbridge (Mr Ostroumoff) is another pony to bear in mind on account of its light weight of 159 lbs.

### FOURTH RACE

Thurley Handicap: Six Furlongs. This event will be fought out by Class 9 ponies and, judging from past performances, Rous d'or which will be taken out by Mr T. L. Wong, will probably win.

Opposition is likely to come from Harvest Moon (Mr Starr Lia).

Gracechurch (Mr C. L. Liu) is another pony to watch whilst Bashing Beauty II (Mr Shu) is not bad.

Wild Honey (Mr Kwok) is a fast-improving pony and may conceivably cause an upset.

### FIFTH RACE

Providence Handicap: From 2-Mile Post. In this race confined to Class 2 ponies, an interesting finish should eventuate.

L'arc Triomphe (Mr C. L. Liu) will undoubtedly be made hot favourite, and on form it should certainly have a good chance of winning.

Caesar (Mr Botelho) is the next best bet, but Beautiful Star (Mr Tsai) is not to be ignored as this pony is quite dependable over this distance.

First Edition (Mr Samarcq) and Winning Rush (Mr H. P. Channon) are quite good over this distance and will be near at the finish.

### SIXTH RACE

Leopardstown Handicap: From 1½ Mile Post.

Looking over the entries in this event I don't think there is much doubt that Charlot (Mr C. L. Liu) will win, unless something out of the ordinary happens.

Hallmark (Mr Samarcq) should have no difficulty in taking second place.

A good struggle should ensue between Sycron (Mr Boycott) and Star-glo (Mr Kwok) for third place.

### SEVENTH RACE

Epsom Handicap (Second Section): One Mile.

This race is confined to Class 6 ponies. I like the chances of Attractive Power (Mr Samarcq), Atomic Caesar (Mr Starr Lia), Free Kick (Mr A. Noodt) and Brivisto (Mr Plumby).

Attractive Power won the Folkestone Handicap (First Section) over this distance for Class 7 ponies in 1.50 at the last meeting with Mr H. K. Cheng up in a novice race carrying 152 lbs.

On that performance, it was promoted to this class. As it is now in splendid condition, I think it will just about do it again.

Atomic Caesar and Free Kick are in fine condition at the moment and should have a say at the finish.

Brivisto has been showing improvement in morning gallops and it will probably extend the other starters.

### EIGHTH RACE

Blas Bay Handicap: From 1½ Mile Post.

Class 7 ponies will run this event and I strongly fancy Matador (Mr Barthropp) as the distance is well suited for this pony although it failed to gain a place at the last meeting over the mile.

Emperor Delight (Mr Chen Poo) is, of course, the danger, and I expect to see it fighting out the finish.

Blossom Time (Mr C. L. Liu) is also in the race, judging from its fourth placing at the last meeting with Mr K. C. Wang up.

Honey Dew (Mr Kwok) is the best outsider.

### NINTH RACE

Powerstown Handicap: From 2-Mile Post.

The day's programme will be concluded with a race for Class 5 ponies.

The Stranger (Mr Alex Lam) is carrying 154 lbs. less 5 lbs. for a novice jockey, i.e. 149 lbs., which may not be too much of a handicap in view of its second placing in the Mueselburgh Handicap (First Section) over the mile at the 4th Race Meeting. It certainly stands a good chance of winning.

Mr. Ostroumoff, which was third in this same race, after being left at the start, should have a say here.

Speedy Roger (Mr Kwok) is also dangerous, but, for those who are looking for a long shot, I would recommend Lightning

What's best in Kowloon?



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SPECIAL DINNER ON X'MAS EVE & X'MAS DAY

GIFTS TO EVERY CUSTOMER!

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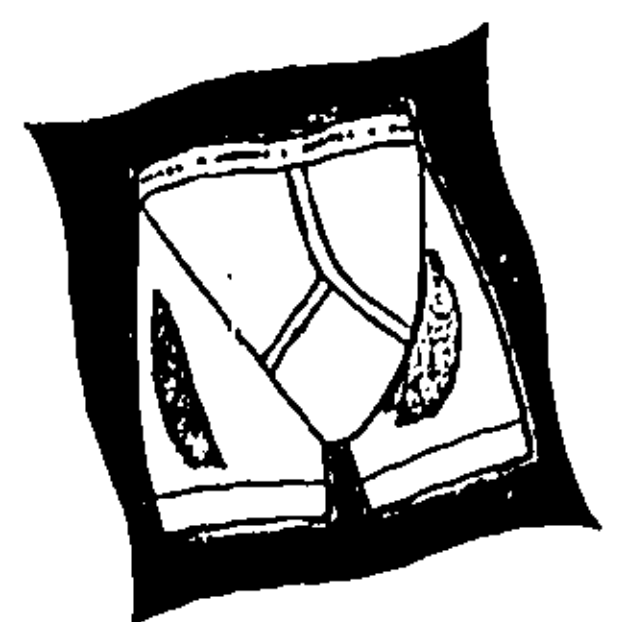
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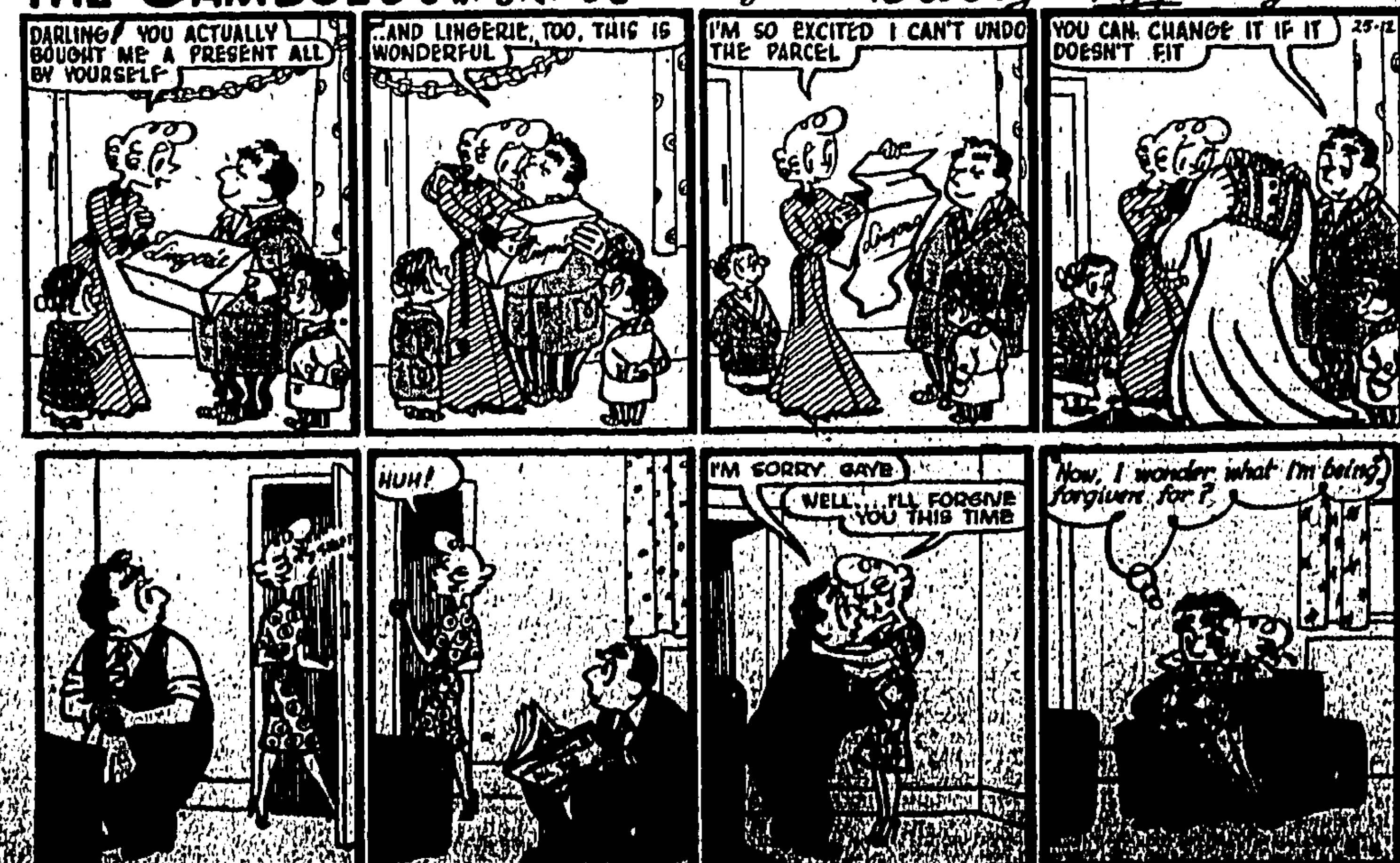
Come in and get it—perfect underwear comfort for every-day and office-line wear—famous Jockey brand Midway, made only by Cooper's! Conventional leg length plus that real Jockey comfort!

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## THE GAMBOLS by Barry Appleby



Surf washes everything cleaner than anything!







## YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

BORN today, you are a natural adventurer, whether it be as an explorer of new places on earth or a pioneer of new ideas. You are often too restless and need to curb your impulses and bring them to some definite pattern. You dislike having to conform and it will be difficult for you to submit to any kind of restraint. On the other hand, you enjoy criticizing others. You like to see everyone else conform to your ideal.

You have charm and wit. You may easily be considered a leader in new ideas and in reform. Yet, you are not one to impose your ideas on others forcefully. You enjoy enlightening others in support of your ideas, but your method of leadership is not to be by the pen rather than the sword. You have strong loyalties and will stand by those who are your friends, come what may.

Rather emotional and having keen intuitions, you may need to curb this side of your nature or you will find yourself going off at a tangent. You need to learn concentration in a single objective. Knowing a little about a lot of different things may be a great deal of fun but knowing a lot about some one thing will pay higher dividends in the long run.

Among those born on this date are: Kit Carson, pioneer; Richard Sturgis, architect; Charles Wakefield Cadman and Henry Busch, composers; Matthew Arnold, author; Ruth Chatterton, actress and author; Carl Brisson, actor.

To find out what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—You are a cheerful, outgoing, family of children, you'll be up with the birds. Have a joyous time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—A fine day, even if it rains or snows. The home fires should be burning brightly for you and your loved ones.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—The stars are in harmony and the day should pass in joy and happiness for all.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—The spirit of Christmas can be enjoyed throughout the day. True happiness is found in giving as well as receiving.

Taurus (Apr. 21-May 21)—Enjoy the spiritual aspects of the day as well as the joy of the festivities. Both are important.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Happiness in the gathering of your family about you and true and lasting contentment.

BORN on Christmas Day, a rather rare birthday, you are destined for an outstanding career. You are a person of ideas and ideas, a combination which makes for a brilliant performance in any field you wish to enter. Your talents are great and your imagination is fertile. You are a person of ideas and ideas, a combination which makes for a brilliant performance in any field you wish to enter. Your talents are great and your imagination is fertile.

You are something of an individualist and like to work things out in your own way. This may give you a rather standstill attitude which those who do not know you will consider slow. But you have a heart as big as all outdoors and all humanity is endeared by your hope for the betterment of all mankind. Unless you can find someone whose goals coincide with yours, you will never be satisfied. If you do, your marriage should be an exceptionally fortunate one.

Among those born on this date are: Sir Isaac Newton, scientist; Clara Barton, reformer; David Hoffman, poet; Francis Blake, novelist; Edward Bromberg and Humphrey Bogart, screen stars.

To find out what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—The second day of this holiday week-end is exceptionally favourable. You will have a very good time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—In seeking pleasure, do not neglect the spiritual side of the holiday season. Attend church.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—All should get well with you today and nothing can mar their pleasure and happiness of your week-end.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—There is romance in the air for you this holiday season. To make or receive a proposal is highly probable.

Taurus (Apr. 21-May 21)—The fine spirit of yesterday continues to permeate this day as well. Give thanks for the good things of life.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—You may follow through with your plans today and feel satisfied that they will work out as anticipated.

BORN today you have a deep and forceful personality but want peace and harmony more than anything else in the world. Consequently, you are not one to push your ideas with clenched fists but rather you calm, if you can, the passions of others. Your reason is the result of intellect and this gift should be developed from earliest youth. History and philosophy also hold a high appeal and you might combine your writing talent with these subjects.

You have the gift of concentration and once you get an idea into your head you let nothing deter you from reaching your goal in that quiet, determined and efficient fashion. You may often surprise competitors, for you talk so little and do so much that the results are accomplished without fanfare. Since you are basically an intellectual, you often feel out of your element, especially when surrounded by the noisy and restless of the business world. You seem to need only sufficient funds to take care of your minimum needs.

This attitude toward material success is fair enough if you do not have a family that depends upon you for support. If you do, then you must shake yourself out of apathy and get to work. However, your love of home and of having your own family is one of the motivating powers in your life. A happy marriage will be yours and you will find it well worth the effort.

Among those born on this date are: Admiral George Dewey, U.S.N.; Thomas Nelson Page; Emma Southworth, novelist; Dion Boucicault, playwright; Horatio Hornblower, captain.

To find out what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Early morning hours need careful attention. Something could go awry that would prove serious.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Conservative action is best for now. Don't be too adventurous or take unnecessary chances. Stay calm.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—There may be important matters which need your attention after the holidays. Get an early start.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—An average day, but one for you but you can improve things by taking a positive attitude.

Taurus (Apr. 21-May 21)—You may follow through with your normal return to work plans. It may be difficult to get in your stride.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Don't attempt to do too much today. You may be a little weary from a hectic week-end, so relax tensions.

## DARTWORDS

In today's Dartwords, you have a list of words that are hard to find in a dictionary. Find a girl named CHARLOTTE. This word is made up of the letters in the word "Charlotte" in the circle, moving from one letter to the next in such a way that the relationship between day word and night word is maintained. It is governed by one of six rules.

**RULES**

1. The word may be an acronym of a word that precedes it.
2. The word may be a word that precedes it.
3. The word may be a word that follows it.
4. The word may be a word that is associated with the preceding word in a title of a book, play, or movie.
5. The word may be a word that is associated with the preceding word in a title of a book, play, or movie.
6. The word may be a word that is associated with the preceding word in a title of a book, play, or movie.

Example: The word "DART" is associated with the word "DART" in the title of a book, play, or movie.



"He was caught by a policeman."

## BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

THE account of a concert at which "the instrumentalists did not always respond to the conductor with the right notes," recalled to me an occasion when an orchestra did not even respond with the right piece of music.

The conductor conducted Bizet's "L'Arlesienne," but the instrumentalists responded with the overture to "Rienzi." With great courtesy the conductor switched to the Wagner, but by that time the instrumentalists, not to be outdone in courtesy, had switched to the Bizet. As a critic wrote: "There was an apparent lack of co-ordination between the conductor and the orchestra."

The old Rochdale Observer

## JACOB ON BRIDGE

Silence Is Golden In Bridge Game

By OSWALD JACOBY

"THERE is a time to speak and a time to keep quiet," Peter Leventritt was saying the other day at the celebrated Card School in New York as I looked my face through the doorway. I added in a quiet voice and took a seat to listen to Peter's lecture, very happy to keep quiet while Peter spoke.

The text for the talk is shown at today's hand. North and South have every right to speak up during the bidding, but East should know enough to keep quiet.

North has a sound opening bid, with 15 points in high cards. South is ready to bid two no-trump regardless of whether or not East bids, since South has 14 points in high cards, balanced distribution and a stopper in each of the unbid suits. Thereupon North properly raises to three no-trump.

Having noted that North-South have the right to speak, let's see why East should keep quiet. East has only 7 points in high cards and therefore cannot hope to outbid the enemy. East has a spade 12 or 13 points, in which case West can bid his own hand without any prejudice to three no-trump.

If you can't outbid the enemy, you may still make a sound defensive bid if you can indicate a favourable opening lead in this hand.

NORTH (D)		5
♠	AQJ6	
♥	A4	
♦	AQ853	
♣	AQ93	
EAST		108432
♠	K10763	
♥	107	
♦	10874	
♣	KJ	
SOUTH		
♠	AK7	
♥	QJ9	
♦	964	
♣	A652	
North-South vul.		
North	East	South
1	1	2NT
3NT	Pass	Pass
Opening lead—♥6		

one East's ten-high spade suit doesn't support an opening lead; and, in fact, West's best opening lead is a heart rather than a spade. To sum up, East cannot hope to outbid the enemy and can only confuse his partner in the choice of the best opening lead. Hence the overall cannot do any real good.

Now let's see what harm is done by the overall. West leads the six of hearts, the best lead regardless of East's action. Declarer plays low from the dummy and wins in his own hand with the nine. He now knows that West has the king of hearts.

Declarer leads a diamond to dummy's ace (the correct safety play, in case East has the singleton king), goes back to his hand with the ace of spades, and leads another diamond towards the dummy. West naturally plays low, and South has to decide whether to put up the queen or duck.

If there has been no defensive bidding, South's percentage play is to put up dummy's queen of diamonds. Then he would lose two diamond tricks, and the contract. But if East has foolishly bid spades South should credit him with the two missing kings and should duck the second round of diamonds. East must play his king anyway, and now the contract is easily made.

## CARD Sense

Q—Will neither side vulnerable, the bidding is as follows:

North: 1♠, 2♠, 3♠, 4♠, 5♠, 6♠, 7♠, 8♠, 9♠, 10♠, 11♠, 12♠, 13♠, 14♠, 15♠, 16♠, 17♠, 18♠, 19♠, 20♠, 21♠, 22♠, 23♠, 24♠, 25♠, 26♠, 27♠, 28♠, 29♠, 30♠, 31♠, 32♠, 33♠, 34♠, 35♠, 36♠, 37♠, 38♠, 39♠, 40♠, 41♠, 42♠, 43♠, 44♠, 45♠, 46♠, 47♠, 48♠, 49♠, 50♠, 51♠, 52♠, 53♠, 54♠, 55♠, 56♠, 57♠, 58♠, 59♠, 60♠, 61♠, 62♠, 63♠, 64♠, 65♠, 66♠, 67♠, 68♠, 69♠, 70♠, 71♠, 72♠, 73♠, 74♠, 75♠, 76♠, 77♠, 78♠, 79♠, 80♠, 81♠, 82♠, 83♠, 84♠, 85♠, 86♠, 87♠, 88♠, 89♠, 90♠, 91♠, 92♠, 93♠, 94♠, 95♠, 96♠, 97♠, 98♠, 99♠, 100♠.

## "BRITISH WAY OF LIFE" IN JAPAN

From Ronald Boxall

A LONG list of successes in spreading British culture in Japan is claimed by the British Council, whose annual report has just been published in London.

There is a hint of ruefulness in its observation that "British books are in great demand: Russian books plentiful and cheap." But the Council is not dismayed. A potential English-reading public of ten million is growing up, it says. Already, more of their publications are sold in Japan—through regular trade—than in any other country.

Japan is, in fact, one of the Council's principal targets for British cultural matter. Alone of all the countries in which the Council operates, Japan has a chapter to itself in the report.

But the Council is not a rich organisation. It cannot do all that it would wish to do. Money has to be spent where it will do the most good—and, even then, with an eye to its effect on the critics at home who consider the Council's work a waste of public funds.

The Council's staff in Japan, in relation to the scope of its operations, is woefully small. For the greater part of the year covered by the report (April 1953 to March 1954), it had only one London-based officer in the country and one typist. Later, it admits, "those numbers were doubled." The rest of the executive staff consisted of a locally-appointed librarian and a Japanese translator.

Staff shortage and the high cost of operating in Japan, however, were only two of the Council's problems when it took over responsibility for British cultural affairs from the United Kingdom Liaison Mission at the end of the Occupation.

It was often found then that the various learned bodies with whom the Council made contact were unaware of recent contributions made by Britain to their subjects. This was especially so where science and medicine were concerned. The extent of British progress in the production of jet-propelled aircraft was a case in point.

But the Council is not solely concerned with culture. Its interests embrace such mundane subjects as traffic jams in Tokyo. "Material lent to Japanese officials describing traffic control in London," says the report, "helped bring about a visible and audible diminution in the bedlam of traffic in Tokyo."

This will come as a surprise to many British motorists, many of whom believe that London's own traffic conditions leave much to be desired.

Between distributing English books to scholars and teachers and instructing Japanese drivers in the finer points of the British Highway Code, the Council got behind with its correspondence. Broadcasts given by the Council officers produced such an avalanche of mail, says the report,

that most of it had to be left unanswered.

The Council's function, however, is not to promote a one-way traffic in culture. It involves its work in Japan as part of an interchange of knowledge between the two countries.

In the year under review, 12 scholarships were awarded to Japanese students, who are reported to be "doing outstandingly well in various British universities, and seem to be sincerely grateful for the treatment they are receiving from the British public."

★ ★ ★

In addition to these scholarships, donated by an unnamed Commonwealth subject, the Council arranged the placing or supervised the studies in Britain of 30 Japanese scholars. More than 60 influential visitors from Japan were given guidance "in varying degrees."

In reverse direction, the Council has facilitated the selection of British candidates for two scholarships offered by the Japanese Government.

## POPULAR RECORDS

Eddie Fisher, Joni James, Teresa Brewer, the Sauter-Pinegan people and other relative newcomers will have to make room for Paul Whiteman and Rudy Vallee.

Whiteman won his crown as the "King of Jazz" in the late 1920's, but times changed after the U.S. stock market crash and so did the music. Out went the brass, in came the strings and old "Pops" was back on the podium as a purveyor of plush music in the Kostelanetz style.

Now, in retrospect, Whiteman has recreated on a Coral LP something that sounds like the music that made him a jazz king. The eight numbers are made up as an "All Time Dance Party" and includes hot-upt versions of "Chicago" and "Avalon."

Rudy Vallee made his money at a time when you could keep most of it, so we haven't seen very much of him except occasionally in the movies. Old folks remember Rudy as a care-free young chap who sang through (1) his nose and (2) a megaphone.

The megaphone, of course, long ago gave way to the microphone, but the good old twang is still there as Vallee sings "Maine Song," "Betty Co-Ed," "You Just a Vagabond Lover" and five others, including his radio theme song, "My Time Is Your Time," on a Capitol LP.

Another old-timer, Sophie Tucker, has been peering in and out of the musical scene. Her latest recording for Mercury is a real corker called "The Middle Aged Man." The flapper, "Down South," is equally entertaining.

But the re-emergence of these stars doesn't take the shine off the top performers of today. The previously mentioned Miss Brewer offers eight excellent numbers on a Coral LP. "A Bouquet of Hits from Teresa Brewer" and "The Sound of Sauter-Pinegan Orchestra" brings out unusual tunes in 10 numbers recorded for Hi-Fi fans (RCA-Victor).

Show Time: The unforgettable music of "Brigadoon" now is available on an M-G-M long-playing disc, taken from the sound track of the movie which stars Gene Kelly, Van Johnson, Cyd Charisse and Elinor Barrie.

Singles worth hearing: "The Naughty Lady of Shady Lane" by the Ames Brothers (RCA-Victor), "Marionette" by Joan Weber (Columbia) and "Love Me" by the Five De Mores Sisters (Decca).

—WILLIAM D. LAFILER

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